

Tension rises in Lisbon as Catholics face unions

On rose in Lisbon yesterday as Communist-led printers occupied the offices of socialist newspaper Republica. Later, fired into the air to break up pro- and Catholic demonstrators who were facing another outside the Lisbon residence of the Catholic Patriarch.

Hot and tear gas in newspaper siege

June 18.—Troops of shots into the air in the morning to a crowd of Communist-led demonstrators in front of the residence of the Catholic Patriarch.

Communist-controlled had called on their to march on the residence to protest Church's opposition to on studios of its radio Renaissance being occupied by Communist workers month ago.

is issued a pastoral Wednesday in which explained that Portugal was swept by anarchy, "and a climate of insecurity."

of military commander at of tonight's riot called for reinforcements, ambulances arriving. Some injuries reported from the rioters were no gunshot.

lessons: number out 3,000, shouted with fascism and its up and "Long live the people of the Republic!"

up of about 300 counter-attackers stood on the le of the square from the residence. The police used tear gas to clear the area.

is a blue banner hung a float of the building. "We are with our people," it read.

hile, other troops in night, evacuated a Communist-led workers to control of the newspaper building in the face of Socialist sympathisers.

men who had occupied the premises during the day leave the premises in the home security force of the building.

Major Antonio Silva, the Copcon officer, promised them would be allowed to return to their homes in the morning.

he street disturbances in a hill overlooking the main street from the other was on a same position to the Republic.

is the Republic of the troops were fired since afternoon. today, an official for the Catholic Church gave a warning to the priests and of this country at if there is going to be a demonstration against the Republic.

There may be a trial in Uganda

les Harrison, 28, a British man, aged 39, pleaded when he appeared in a Ugandan court on a charge of sexual offences.

ing at the Makindye police headquarters, is for James Ali, who headed the tribunal, Cecil Hills, aged 61, and sentenced him to 10 years.

the charge faced by is less serious, and recent economic recession carries only a of imprisonment, will be executed by the court.

min said, that in a Kampala, Mr Smolen, a city of cooking oil, 500 and 2,000 packets, all of which are in Uganda.



Gary Gilmour, 23-year-old newcomer in Australia's world cup side, had remarkable success yesterday when Australia beat England by four wickets. Gilmour, seen dismissing Hayes, took 6-14 and made top score in the match. Report, page 8.

Scots miners reject all pay restraint

Scottish miners' delegates voted against any pay restraint after their communist president, Mr Michael McGahey, had called on them to back the miners to end the social contract.

Suggesting £100 a week for face workers, he said critics should be asked: "Would you work underground for £100 gross a week?" Page 2

May pay rates up 3.5pc Basic weekly pay rates rose by 3.5 per cent last week, continuing the rapid wage inflation which has been blowing considerably above demand for labour drops.

N Sea oil flow starts The first North Sea oil, from Britain's Argill field, was pumped ashore yesterday at BP's new refinery on the Isle of Grain.

Blood in Lucan car Bloodstains found in a car borrowed by Lord Lucan and later abandoned matched the blood group of both of Lady Lucan and of the burglar found battered to death at Lady Lucan's Belgrave home, Westminster Coroner's Court was told by an expert yesterday.

Crisis plan: Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, proposed a four-point crisis plan last night in a party political broadcast.

Mortgage tax relief: A hint that the Government may modify or end tax relief on mortgages comes from Mr Crossland, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Height of luxury: Seven French restaurateurs will serve a champagne luncheon on the summit of Mont Blanc on Monday.

United Arab Emirates: Twelve-page Special Report in the series Investment Centres of the World.

Read News 2, 4, 5 Business 17-22 Features 12, 14 Parliament 12, 14 Law Report 12, 14 Letters 12, 14 Overseas News 5, 6 Court 12, 14 Arts 11, 12 Crossword 11, 12 Books 11, 12

Prince beheaded in public for King Faisal's murder Riyadh, June 18.—A 26-year-old Saudi prince was beheaded publicly in a central square in Riyadh today for the murder of his uncle, King Faisal, in March.

Prince Faisal Ibn Musaid, wearing a white robe and blindfolded, was prodded twice by the executioner with his gold-handled sword. The executioner then sheared off the prince's head with a clean sweep.

The head was displayed for 15 minutes on a wooden spike, so that the crowds could see it. Then it was removed, together with the body, in an ambulance.

Mr Weighell hopeful as rail strike hangs in balance

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff The possibility of a national rail strike on Monday still hangs in the balance today after the adjournment of talks last night. No new cash offer was made that could encourage a compromise.

Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, left the talks after two hours and a half cheerful and optimistic that the British Railways Board would offer more money; on top of the 27.5 per cent arbitration award when the talks resume today.

He said he knew what was on the table and presumed the board would offer more. He had told them he was not inflexible and was prepared to negotiate.

"I would not have come here unless I thought there was some money on the table somewhere," Mr Weighell said. "I do not think the Prime Minister or anyone would have had us on the merry-go-round unless there was an intention to make us an offer."

Such optimism does not, however, seem to be firmly founded. Others who attended the meeting got the impression that British Rail was thinking of redistributing the arbitration tribunal's award rather than increasing the total cost of £77.5m. When the meeting broke up Mr Herbert Farrington, the board's member for industrial

relations, asked the three unions present to consider redistribution overnight. He indicated that he would make specific proposals today, but did not say that they would necessarily include more money. The NUR's sole hope of being able to call off the strike now is that British Rail will use the adjournment to ask the Government to authorise a new offer. Mr Wilson's strong words in the Commons on Tuesday make it unlikely that he will agree in anything but a small increase.

A bid redistribution of the award might displease the other unions, especially the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef), the drivers' union. Mr Ray Buckton, its general secretary, said last night that he was worried that the credibility of the arbitration process would be undermined.

British Rail has started to prepare for the strike. Yesterday it stopped accepting live stock and perishable goods on its normal parcel service.

The NUR wants pay rises of between 30 and 35 per cent and has rejected the arbitration award, which has been accepted by the other unions. Its main goal is to increase the basic pay of lower-paid railwaymen to maintain their position in relation to surface workers. This would cost an estimated £7m more.

Labour left suspects Industry Bill changes By Hugh Noyes Parliamentary Correspondent Westminster The left wing of the Labour Party was lashing itself into a frenzy last night as suspicion mounted that the Government is about to table amendments to the Industry Bill that will make it scarcely recognizable when presented again to Parliament after the discussions now going on with the TUC and the CBI.

As the Commons debated a motion yesterday to extend the time allowed for the remaining stages of the Bill from two days to three, Mr Eric Heffer rose angrily from the Labour back benches to shout that if there were any secret deals being made with the CBI "we are in an entirely new ball game and the Government had better recognize that". He added: "I want the Prime Minister and the Cabinet not to come forward with fundamental changes that reflect the opinions of the CBI. We in the Labour movement do not expect that sort of thing. If this does I say right now that we in the Labour movement will not accept it and will fight these amendments all the way through. We shall have a lot to say about these matters even if they are passed and until they are removed from the statute book."

In vain did Mr Gerald Kaufman, the new Under-Secretary at the Department of Industry, try to reassure his colleagues on the back benches. It was not for him to say what amendments there might be, he pointed out. But I can say that there is going to be no emasculation of the Bill."

He had not spent 15 months in the Commons and he was not going to be emasculated of the Bill."

MPs' £2,000 rise suggestion upsets ministers By Our Political Staff Ministers are understood to be embarrassed by an official recommendation that MPs should be given what is believed to be a £2,000 salary increase.

The report of the review body, whose chairman is Lord Boyle of Handsworth, which has been examining MPs' salaries, is expected to be published in the Government last week. It is now expected to go before a Cabinet committee.

Although it is fully recognized that MPs, who last had a salary increase in 1950, are victims of the inflationary spiral there is a strong feeling that sanction of an increase at this stage could be highly damaging as the Government attempts to persuade the unions to reduce their wage demands. MPs also have a maximum taxable allowance of £3,000.

Some MPs in all parties believe that a suitable compromise would be to pay half the proposed award - now and the rest later as a means of restoring some of the value of the 1971 increase, but they may have a difficult time converting ministers to that view.

Mali envoy shot by chauffeur Brussels, June 18.—Mr Alioune Nissoko, aged 52, the Mali Ambassador to Belgium, was shot dead in his office this morning by his chauffeur, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The chauffeur, Mr Keita Kalifa, aged 23, then shot himself in the stomach and died on the way to hospital.

Mr Sissoko, a former vice-president of the Mali National Assembly, was also accredited to the EEC, Britain, Holland and Luxembourg.—Reuter.

Lord Avon denies 'kill Nasser' story

From Fred Emery Washington, June 18 During the Suez crisis of 1956, Lord Avon—then Sir Anthony Eden, the Prime Minister—discussed the possibility of having President Nasser of Egypt assassinated. It was said here today.

Mr Milroy Copeland, a former Central Intelligence Agency official, told me in a telephone interview that he had frequently, "but not seriously" discussed the idea with Sir Anthony and with top British intelligence officials.

[In London, Lord Avon described the allegation as "a load of rubbish". He had never talked about assassinating anyone.]

Mr Copeland said he had told an investigator of the Senate select committee on United States intelligence activities about Lord Avon's "keen interest" in the assassination as an example showing that everyone talks about such things.

The Senate committee is deeply involved in the investigation of the CIA and assassination plots. In Mr Copeland's phrase "You can't live in Fogland and not get involved in cannibalism."

Mr Copeland, who has written about purported CIA activities, said: "Anthony Eden wanted me to shoot Nasser." He was Continued on page 6, col 4

Labour left suspects Industry Bill changes

By George Clark Political Correspondent The Labour Party's delegation to the European Parliament will consist of 12 MPs from the Commons and six Labour peers, who will be chosen by a system of "selective nomination". It is expected that they will take their seats at Strasbourg as members of the European Socialist Group on July 7.

That was the effect of a series of votes taken at a two-hour meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party at the Commons last night, attended by both Labour MPs and Labour peers.

The proposal, put by Mr William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife, Central, that the delegation should be chosen "by direct election of the members of the Parliamentary Labour Party in their respective Houses" was rejected by 68 votes to 28.

Applications from Labour MPs and peers who wish to be members of the delegation have to be submitted by next Tuesday, and the choice will be made in the Commons by Mr Rob Maitland, Government Chief Whip, and Mr Cladwyn Hughes, chairman of the PLP; the Labour peers will be selected by Lord Shepherd, the Leader of the House, and Lady Llewellyn-Davies of Hastoe, chief whip, and the choice will be subject to approval by Labour peers as a whole.

The names of the chosen 18 will come before the liaison committee of the party on which are represented Labour backbenchers, Labour peers and the Government, on Wednesday, and the list will finally be presented to the Parliamentary Labour Party next Thursday for approval.

At that stage it would still be possible for members of the party to propose changes and challenge the choice made by the liaison committee. The procedure is necessary because an amendment to the main proposal put last night by Mr George Cunningham, MP for Islington, South and Finsbury, that the list "should become effective only when approved by a meeting of the PLP" was agreed on the recommendation of the liaison committee.

It was made clear in the main recommendation from the liaison committee that the method of selection should apply for the next 12 months only.

Perhaps the most important amendment, in view of the projected debate in the July session of the European Parliament on the federalist aims of the Community, was that put by Mr Michael Thomas, (Newcastle upon Tyne, East) that the Labour Party delegation should seek to join the European Socialist Group in the Strasbourg parliament. It was carried by 54 votes to 34.

The decision means that the Labour Party delegation, on their first appearance at Strasbourg as European MPs, may be presented with a dilemma when the vote is taken on federalism. The European socialists are already committed to the idea of a federalist Europe.

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HOME NEWS

Scottish miners repudiate all pay restraint after McGahey call for £100-a-week rate for face workers

From Paul Routledge
Labour Editor,
Inverness

The social contract yesterday suffered a fresh defeat by left-wing trade union critics of wage restraint.

Scottish miners expressed "grave concern" at "the use of the social contract to impose wage restraint" and called for an immediate return to unfettered collective bargaining after Mr Michael McGahey, their communist president, had called on them to "stand shoulder to shoulder" with the engineering workers to get rid of the social contract.

Delegates to the policymaking conference of the Scottish area of the National Union of Mineworkers agreed that wage restraint of the kind laid down by the TUC's deal with the Government automatically reduced workers' living standards. They called on the Government to implement its election pledge to take steps "to ensure a fundamental and irreversible shift in the balance of wealth and power in favour of working people".

In his usual uncompromising vein, the Scots miners' leader, who is also national vice-president of the NUM, demanded a "very substantial increase" in miners' wages that would give face workers, at present on £81 a week, a rate of £100.

To those who criticise this demand let me pose the question: 'Would you work underground for £100 gross a week?' The harsher critics writing their prejudiced edi-

torial have much more than £100 a week, and this excludes their perks", he added.

"Let them give publicity to the pneumoconiosis figures, and tell the people of the fatal accident rate and of the serious accidents which take place every day in our industry. Even in our own ranks there were some doubting Thomases, but speak to them now and their doubt is whether £100 a week is enough."

"To those critics who accuse us of being irresponsible militants and cynically reminding us of the social contract, I emphasise that we talk in these wages resolutions of gross pay and not take-home pay."

"Since our last increase in March we have seen the effect of the Budget with increased taxation and rising prices, and many of the benefits of that increase have already been eroded."

"The great play is made of the social contract, as if this was the panacea for all Britain's problems. Those of us who have opposed the social contract and have warned of its wage-freezing effect have been proved correct."

Let us ask the questions: where are the price controls; where is the shift in the balance of wealth and power in favour of the people; and where has the Government met its side of the social contract?

The last Budget had been clearly designed to send up prices and profits while holding back on wages and pen-

sions, and was therefore conducted towards lowering the living standards of working people. "So much for the social contract."

The Scottish miners' leader added: "No one can expect the trade union movement to stand back and watch the living standards of its members being eroded. It is our duty as a trade union not only to maintain but to advance the living standards of our members."

Earlier, Mr McGahey said that opposition to Britain's membership of the EEC would not end despite the overwhelming "Yes" vote in the referendum. Opening the conference, he declared: "The mass of the people who voted 'Yes' were deluded by the mass media and by the pro-Market forces who, in an unholy alliance, have coaxed the British people into staying in Europe."

"Does the referendum mean the end of the road? Does it mean that opposition to British membership halts and we all become Marketeers? Of course not. The effect of Britain's membership of the EEC with its bureaucratic and crisis-ridden system will produce a withdrawal."

One of the effects of continuing British membership might be the development of a common energy policy in Europe, which would lead to the concentration of production in the most economic pits in the Community, and a drive to close uneconomic units. The Scots miners totally opposed closures on economic grounds.

AUEW calls for more state takeovers

From Tim Jones
Labour Staff
Hastings

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Britain's second largest trade union, yesterday followed up its rejection of the social contract by calling for a sweeping programme of nationalisation to reshape the country's economy.

Delegates at its annual conference at Hastings, decided that employment could be increased if purchasing power, pensions and all social public spending were raised by lowering interest rates, slashing defence expenditure and controlling the export of capital.

They demanded state control of banks, insurance companies and financial institutions, shipbuilding and ship repairs, offshore oil, land, aircraft, sections of the pharmaceutical industry, computers, machine tools, building, atomic energy and other key industries.

The conference called for the public ownership of the British motor industry, and for planning agreements at Ford, General Motors and Chrysler.

The executive council was instructed to urge the Government to pay only minimum compensation to the owners of companies about to be nationalised. "If they feel they must pay compensation to people who have lived from the labour and production of others, then the compensation must be absolutely minimal and paid only when these companies have achieved absolute financial stability."



An army officer examining some of the weapons discovered yesterday in a pit of pig slurry.

Five hurt in attack on Belfast bar

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

There was a new threat yesterday to the ceasefire declared by the Provisional IRA over four months ago, after a daylight bomb attack on a crowded public house in Belfast's staunchly Protestant Shankill Road.

The bar was a popular drinking place for members of both the largest loyalist paramilitary organisations, the Ulster Defence Association and the Ulster Volunteer Force. Shortly after the bombing, a man claiming to represent the Catholic Action Group telephoned to a local television station to claim responsibility, and the motor cycle used by

the two bombers was found abandoned in Falls Road, the city's main republican stronghold.

Soon after the attack, a patrol of British soldiers opened fire by mistake on a taxi that was chasing the teenage bombers. Last night the Army confirmed that troops from the 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, fired shots at the taxi, through a misunderstanding.

Five people were taken to hospital after the 10lb duffel-bomb had been thrown towards the Bayardo Arms. Later a police officer said that no one was seriously injured.

Earlier in the day there was a great relief among senior commanders of the security forces after

the news that the arsenal of weapons stolen in a raid on an Ulster Defence Regiment depot had been recovered intact.

The stolen weapons, including 35 sub-machine guns and 148 high-velocity rifles were found in a pit of pig manure at Maghera, a few miles from the armoury where the raid took place.

Last night forensic scientists were examining the weapons for clues to the identities of the 10 men who carried out the raid. Although the farm on which they were discovered is owned by a Protestant, the authorities would not confirm a general suspicion that the raid was carried out by a "loyalist" paramilitary group.

Mr Wilson 'prisoner of the right'

By Michael Hatfield
Political Staff

Labour's left stepped up its harassment of the Government yesterday with a warning to Mr Wilson by Mr Ian Mikardo, a leading member of the Tribune group that he was now a prisoner of right-wing elements who wished to discard him.

Mr Mikardo told a meeting in London last night that Mr Wilson's referendum triumph had "delivered him, bound hand and foot to those right-wing elements in the Labour Party who have disliked him and opposed him but have used him for their own purposes for as long as it suited them."

"Now they don't need him any more, and some of them are scarcely bothering to hide the fact."

The newly formed Social Democratic Alliance was intended to be one of the instruments in the campaign. It was the Labour Committee for Europe under another name. Right-wing militant extremists, who would prefer an actual or tacit coalition to a Wilson-led Labour government, might hope to use it to give them a fig-leaf of respectability.

At an all-day meeting yesterday the Tribune group decided to produce an economic policy statement to show ministers the true road to regenerating the economy. As it will probably demand import controls and reject cuts in public expenditure, the paper is unlikely to make much headway. Some who attended the meeting feared that the Government was returning to a 1967-68 situation, with grim prospects for party unity.

TUC and ministers pool views on Industry Bill

By a Staff Reporter

Members of the TUC's economic committee met the Prime Minister and senior ministers at 10 Downing Street yesterday afternoon to discuss the Government's plans to review the Industry Bill during the final stages of its passage through the Commons.

Views were exchanged during the 80-minute meeting, but no decisions were reached. The TUC was understood to be concerned at the possibility that the Government might dilute the compulsory disclosure provisions of the Bill and reduce the proposed powers of the National Enterprise Board.

The representatives at the meeting of Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, led to speculation that the social contract also was under discussion. However, Mr

Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, said the talks were confined to the Industry Bill.

Sir Ralph Bateson, president of the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday his membership considered that the Bill could make or break relations between the Government and industry.

Speaking at what he called an "extremely angry" meeting of the group, he said Mr Campbell said that the director-general, and Lord Watkinson, chairman of the companies committee, had been called to urgent talks today on the Bill with Mr Varley.

Mr Adamson, who announced his retirement at the meeting, said industrialists were not in a mood to accept the Bill without changes on at least the compulsory disclosure provisions and the power of the National Enterprise Board.

Liberal call for wages policy by law

By Our Political Staff

Mr Cyril Smith, the Liberal Chief Whip, who tried unsuccessfully in the House of Commons to raise the decision of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers annual conference in relation to the social contract, said yesterday that he considered the decision by that union to repudiate and oppose the social contract to be the most important thing that had happened in the field of wages and inflation since last October.

Unfortunately, he said, the decision was shared against the nation rather than for it. "We are now entitled to know what the Prime Minister and his Cabinet intend to do about it," he said. "When do they propose to lead, instead of follow?"

Chiefly, the Government's wages policy is in utter ruins, if it ever existed at all. The consequences for the nation are extremely serious."

Mr Smith said it was clear that the nation must now have a statutory policy. If we do not have it, he said, we are giving some credence to the rumours floating round the House of Commons that the Government had been privately advised that there would be a massive slump in July and that by Christmas there would be a million unemployed. The Government seemed incapable of governing or of handling the wages situation.

Gun fees to rise

Fees for firearm and shotgun certificates are to be increased from July 7. Initial fees for firearms will rise to £7, and for shotguns to £2.

Bill radically alters Ulster terrorist laws

By Penny Symon
Political Staff

A radical change in the procedure for the detention of terrorists in Northern Ireland and the creation of two new offences are proposed in the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) (Amendment) Bill which had a formal first reading in the Commons yesterday.

The purpose of the Bill is to revise the provisions made in the 1973 Act in the light of the report of the Gardiner committee, which was published in January. Under the provisions of the Bill, detention would be by executive action of the Secretary of State, instead of by commissioners, as at present. He would appoint advisers,

people who hold or have held judicial office in the United Kingdom, or are experienced barristers, advocates or solicitors. They would advise on matters concerning the detention and release of terrorists, and could be appointed from among the present commissioners.

The Bill enables the Secretary of State to order the temporary detention of a person by making an interim custody order where it appears that there are grounds for suspecting that the person has been concerned in the commission, or attempted commission, or any act of terrorism, or in directing, organising or training persons for terrorism.

He would refer the case to an adviser within 14 days from the date of the order, and if the order was not done within that period, the order would cease to have effect. As soon as possible after reference to an adviser, the detainee would be served with a written statement on the nature of the terrorist activities of which he is suspected. He might then ask for a meeting with an adviser.

The adviser would report to the Secretary of State whether it was necessary for the person to be detained, and the Secretary would make the detention order or direct the release of the person. If a detention order was not made within seven weeks of the date of the interim custody order, that order would cease to have effect.

Mr Page said the Bill local authorities power over development land what constituted development would be decided local authority and a local planning authority. Mr Page said the Bill would mean that all the of the Bill in the Loi probably have to be until the "overspill" se October.

Blank cheque on local

Doctors protest over NHS pay anomaly

By a Staff Reporter

A new threat to the National Health Service has arisen because some NHS junior hospital staff are being paid significantly more than their equivalents in the university medical service.

NHS junior doctors, on call or actually working for more than 80 hours a week, receive overtime payments, worth between £1,500 and £2,500 a year to most individuals. Academic staff receive no such payments, even though many of them spend most of their time in clinical work on behalf of the NHS, working alongside NHS juniors in the wards.

At a press conference in London yesterday to outline their grievance, the Clinical Lecturers' Group said that about 250 junior academic clinicians would qualify for the extra duty payments under NHS terms.

Unless the anomaly was removed soon, they would contemplate withdrawing some or all of their services from the health service.

Crossman diary reply in House

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, explained to the Commons yesterday that attempts to halt publication of books like the Crossman diaries hinged on the principle of collective ministerial responsibility, which involved the confidentiality of discussions and documents.

In a parliamentary written reply, Mr Silkin said his role meant taking action to protect the public interest. "It is one of my ministerial functions to advise the Government in what the law is and whether changes are desirable. It would be wrong to confuse those two functions."

Inquiry begins into crippled widow's complaint of police harassment

By Diana Geddes

Cumbria police have started an official inquiry into a complaint by a crippled widow of police harassment during Princess Anne's visit to Carlisle on Tuesday. Mr J. Ullock, the deputy chief constable, decided yesterday to take personal control of the inquiry after receiving initial police reports of the woman's allegations.

Mrs Jean Robson, aged 63, of Guildford Crescent, Carlisle, says she was visited by two plainclothes men in an unmarked green van on Monday evening. They said they were policemen. She let them in, thinking one of her sons might have been involved in an accident.

The men wanted to know about her plans for the next day, when Princess Anne was to open an extension to the Cumberland Infirmary. Mrs Robson, who has

had difficulty in walking since an operation on her foot at the infirmary 16 years ago, and is now virtually housebound, said she had no plans and would be at home.

Neighbours called in a city councillor, Mr J. Smith, who found her in a terrible state. He advised her to write to the chief constable to lodge a complaint of harassment and not to open her door if the men came back.

On Tuesday, the green van reappeared outside Mrs Robson's house at 8.30 am. Mrs Robson refused to open her door to the two men, but says they peered through her windows, watching her movements. Neighbours again fetched Mr Smith, who called in the local press.

Reporters found Mrs Robson hiding in the lavatory after a friend had opened the front door. She was trembling and

distraught, and at one stage was sick.

The men in the van would not answer when asked by neighbours if they were police. They remained outside the house until Princess Anne's visit ended at noon.

Mrs Robson has been waging a long battle with the Cumberland Infirmary for compensation for allegedly operating on the wrong foot in 1959. During a previous visit by Princess Anne to Carlisle three years ago, Mrs Robson threatened to make a personal plea to the Princess to intervene in her case, but was removed by police officers from the waiting crowd before the Princess's arrival. No charges were brought.

Cumbria police confirmed yesterday that the green van was a police vehicle and that the two men were CID officers.

Rape reporting is no worse, report says

By a Staff Reporter

Press reporting of rape cases has not shown any tendency to become more irresponsible or more harmful to victims over the two decades to 1971, a survey in this week's *New Society* says.

The study was based mainly on five newspapers (two national dailies, two Sunday papers and one London evening paper) for the years 1951, 1961, and 1971. Although the number of reports in the newspapers had risen from 28 in 1951 to 91 in 1971, the proportion of trials reported remained almost static, at about a quarter.

In both 1951 and 1971, 54 per cent of newspaper reports carried the name of the victim. But fewer reports carried the victim's address.

Battered wives in Scotland face disclosure risk

By Pat Healy
Social Services
Correspondent

Battered wives in Scotland are more likely to risk having their new addresses disclosed to their husbands when they claim social security benefit than in England and Wales.

The department of Health and Social Security in Scotland said that in England and Wales the address of the wife was not disclosed in such proceedings, but in Scotland the husband was served with a writ, which included the wife's address.

The evidence said it had been proposed that in future, the address should not be disclosed, but a department official said last night that it was unlikely that the proposal had been implemented yet.

Pearl plan to increase price of milk

By Hugh Clayton

Plans for raising the price of milk were disclosed yesterday by Mr Peter Hain, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. He addressed members of the Dairy Trade Federation after Mr Nicholas Horsley, their president, had said there was a danger of a milk shortage this winter.

Mr Pearl said the Government was about to review the level of profit awarded to milk distributors. "I appreciate your concern that the target should be sufficient to provide the resources necessary for the milk industry to do its job properly," he said.

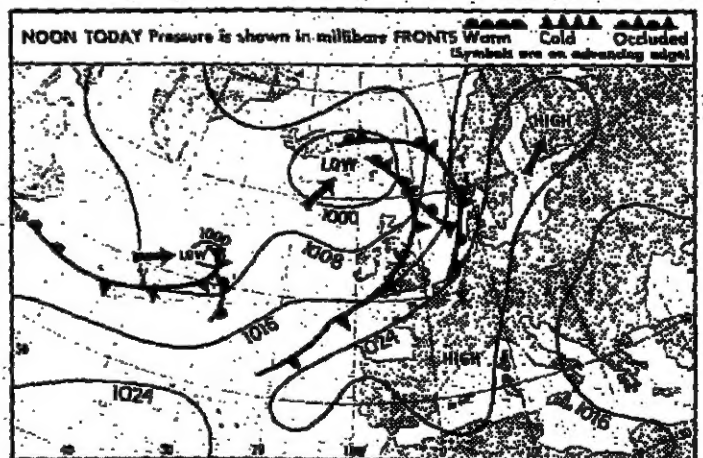
The Government is planning to phase out the present food subsidies, including those on liquid milk, butter and cheese. I fully appreciate the trade's view that those subsidies will need to be phased out gradually. One also has to take into account increases in processing and distribution costs as well as the importance to producers of their returns from sales of milk for liquid consumption."

Mr Pearl said profits on milk had to be considered in the light of the need to control inflation. In the past two years supplies for making butter and cheese had fallen, and there was great scope for an increase in Britain even though the EEC had a surplus of milk products.

Mr Horsley called on the Government to campaign in Brussels "to help us to continue to sell milk as it comes from the cow". The EEC demands that no milk must be sold with less than 31 per cent fat, a rule that is due to apply to Britain next year.

"British custom is to sell 'natural' milk which often exceeds the Community minimum but sometimes falls below it. Mr Pearl said the Government would safeguard the interests of the British

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 4.43 am
Sun sets: 9.21 pm
Moon rises: 1.45 am
Moon sets: 4.55 pm
Full Moon: June 23
Lighting up: 9.51 pm to 4.13 am
High water: London Bridge: 10.37 am, 6.50 pm (12.7h); 11.3 am, 5.30 pm (21.2h)
Low water: London Bridge: 3.40 am, 11.50 pm (37.6h); 4.22 pm, 11.50 pm (37.6h)
Dover: 7.56 am, 5.80 pm (19.1h); 8.20 pm, 6.00 pm (19.8h)
Bull: 2.45 am, 6.20 am (20.5h); 3.4 pm, 6.50 pm (21.5h)
Liverpool: 8.0 am, 6.20 am (26.5h); 5.60 pm, 3.30 pm (27.1h)
A cold front will move slowly SE across much of the British Isles.

London, SE England, East Angles: Sunny periods developing; perhaps rain later; wind SW, moderate; max temp 23°C (73°F).
Central S, central N and E England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Partly cloudy; occasional drizzle; brighter later; wind SW, moderate; max temp 23°C (72°F).
SW England, S Wales: Cloudy, some drizzle; brighter later; wind SW, fresh; max temp 21°C (70°F).
N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Edinburgh: Partly cloudy; occasional drizzle; Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, N Ireland: Cloudy; occasional rain at first; sunny periods and scattered showers developing; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 17°C (63°F).
NE England, Borders: Cloudy; occasional rain at first; sunny periods and scattered showers developing; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 15°C (64°F).
NE and NW Scotland: Cloudy; occasional rain at first; sunny periods and showers developing; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 14°C (57°F).
Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy with rain; showers by sunny periods and showers; wind S, fresh; max temp 14°C (57°F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Showers in N and perhaps rain in extreme SE at first; becoming mainly dry with sunny spells; tempo about normal.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY
1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain; 18. rain; 19. rain; 20. rain; 21. rain; 22. rain; 23. rain; 24. rain; 25. rain; 26. rain; 27. rain; 28. rain; 29. rain; 30. rain; 31. rain; 1. fair; 2. sun; 3. sun; 4. drizzle; 5. rain; 6. rain; 7. rain; 8. rain; 9. rain; 10. rain; 11. rain; 12. rain; 13. rain; 14. rain; 15. rain; 16. rain; 17. rain;

How to beat the Army Officer Selection Board.



It's a fact that only about 30% of the candidates applying to the Army Officer Selection Board pass. In spite of what some disgruntled applicants may tell you however, the Board isn't bent on keeping people out.

Quite the opposite. While setting a necessarily high standard, the Board goes out of its way to help applicants show their stuff.

So we're only going an inch or two further by giving you a few tips that could improve your chances.

Are you a fit person?

First off, don't be in a hurry to present yourself to the Board if you can't run up stairs without blowing like a geyser. Get fit first.

While none of the tests used by the Board demand Olympic standards, they all call for considerable mental effort. And you can't think at your best if you're exhausted by the previous obstacle.

Take the task illustrated for instance. Study it now while you're calm and collected and doubtless a number of possible solutions will occur to you. You can probably imagine yourself giving crisp, explicit orders to your team and them moving across the obstacle with their equipment in a smooth flow of action.

It won't be like that if you're jack-knifed on the grass wheezing for breath. The Board will not have the chance to see how good you really are.

Another thing that will help you over the obstacles is an understanding of levers, pendulums and inclined planes. So if you're rusty brush

You don't need a plum in your mouth.

We'd hate anybody who has been to a public school to get the idea that the Board is prejudiced against them.

So if you went to Eton don't waste time hanging around the East End trying to pick up the accent. It will do you no good. And the converse is equally true if you happen to come from the East End.

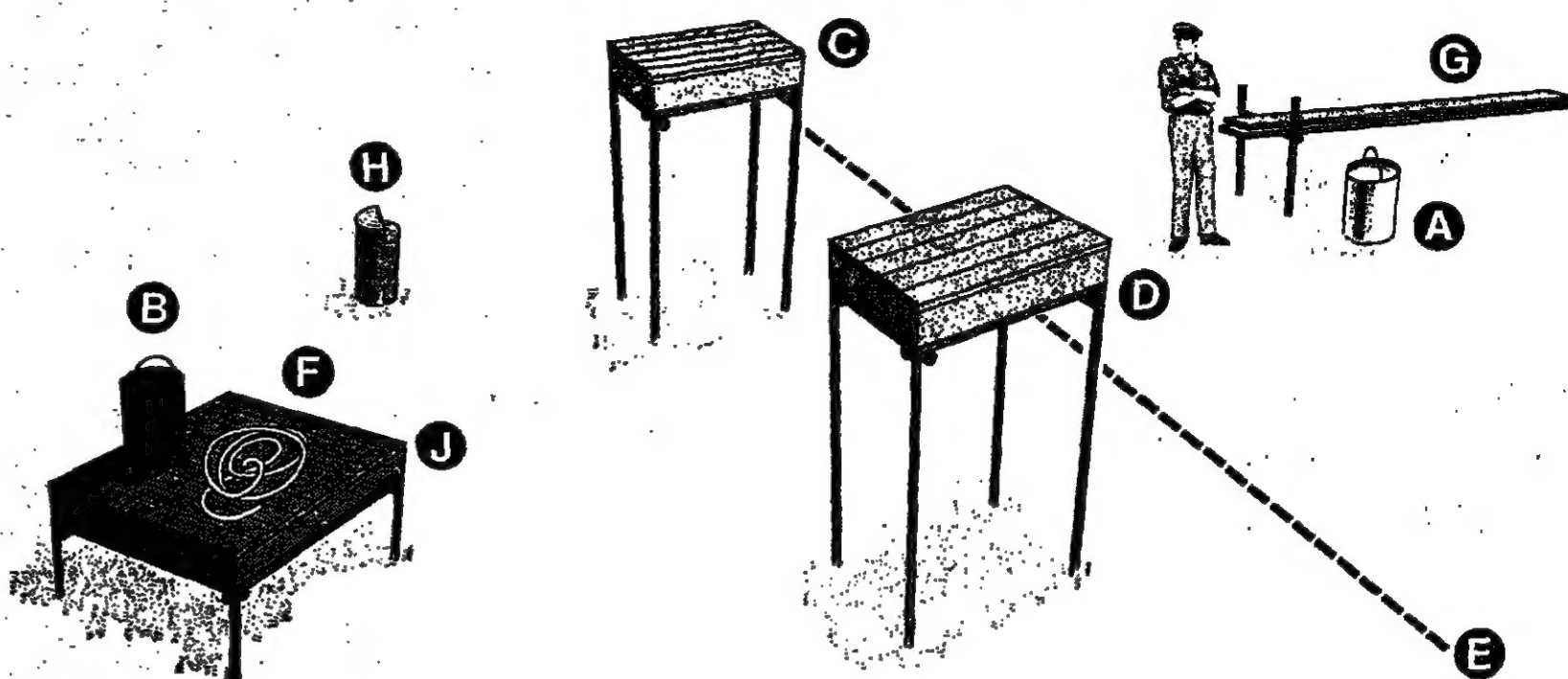
The Board isn't interested in your style of speech. But it will be keenly interested in what you have to say.

During the time that you spend with the Selection Board you will be interviewed by a Major, a Lieutenant-Colonel and a Brigadier, possibly by a Major-General and certainly by an Education Officer.

You had better have plenty of material.

Like most people, they enjoy chatting to somebody who has had a bit of experience. Somebody who has been around and who has met different sorts of people.

A TYPICAL COMMAND TASK.



One member of an 8-man group of applicants has the problem explained to him by the Officer. (Each member of the group has a turn at leading the group through a different problem.)

He then has a few minutes to figure out a solution before explaining it to his group and getting them to implement it. The problem is to switch the cans (17" high and filled with sand) which are at A and B.

The group must be split into two teams of 4 each. Each team is then assigned to a can and mustn't touch the other team's can. Neither can they use the other team's

platform C or D. They must each use their own route. Nobody and nothing may touch the ground on the left of the start line E. Behind which both teams must start. Jumping from one platform to the other isn't allowed.

There is a rope lashing F on the platform J and two planks G each one long enough to bridge the gaps C-H, H-J and J-D. And between the start line and the two nearest platforms.

Time allowed to interchange the drums is 10 minutes. It doesn't matter where the men, the planks or the rope end up. Go to it.

They don't want to hear a rundown of the week's television programmes. And if this is the limit of your experience hold off your application until you've branched out a bit.

Buy a rucksack and start working your way around the country. Find yourself a job overseas. Anything to broaden your contacts.

Understandably, officers like talking to candidates about the Army. So it's worth considering joining the Cadet Force or the University Officer Training Corps. These outfits can give you access to the regiment or corps that interests you. All grist to the mill. You might even consider reading a few books on military subjects.

All the interviewers will be looking for evidence of a keen interest in the Army. And they are not easy to fool. If you aren't interested, really interested, please don't bother them.

One of their favourite questions is 'What will you do if you get turned down by the Board?' Think about it. What are you going to say?

If you can impress your fellow candidates you'll impress the Board.

Besides talking to members of the Board, you'll be talking to your fellow candidates. There will be a group discussion on current affairs which will be led by the group leader and watched by other members of the Board.

So start reading the papers a bit more avidly than you do at the moment.

Later you'll be given a choice of subjects

and a quarter of an hour to prepare a lecturette.

You'll also have to present persuasive arguments in favour of your solution to a variety of problems.

So, if you have trouble talking to groups of people, take steps right away. Join a debating society or a drama club. Take a soap box to Speaker's Corner. It won't take you long to overcome the communication problem.

And if you haven't had any experience of organizing groups of people at school you should try your hand with a youth group.

Don't think from all this that the Board expects you to appear before them ready and prepared to take command of a regiment. It's just that we felt that you'll make a better showing if you have some idea of what you're in for.

The recent Defence Review means we still need to select this year about 700 young men for Short Service and Regular Commissions. Remember, the Board want to pass you. But to be worth training at Sandhurst you have to display the qualities (however latent) required of an Army Officer.

If you think you're ready to face the Army Officer Selection Board, and you're under 29, write to: Major J. R. Drew, Army Officer Entry, Dept. A6 Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W1X 6AA. Tell him about your educational qualifications and your life in general so far.



Army Officer

WEST EUROPE

Election shocks lend weight to calls for Italian social reforms

From Peter Nicholas, Rome, June 18

The Christian Democratic Party's national executive is due to meet tomorrow to survey formally the state of the country after the general Communist election gains. Already, the quite unforeseen magnitude of the Communist advance is bringing urgent appeals to the governing parties to apply themselves seriously to a policy of social reform.

Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist Party secretary, "Enrichito" to his cheering supporters, has provided his own analysis of why his party made such strides.

The secret of our victory is simple: first, the Communist Party is the party most closely tied to the requirements and feelings of the working people, defending their interests and expressing their aspirations.

Second, the Communist policy is correct and clear and puts forward with a constant tenacity the only valid and realistic democratic alternative which can restore Italy to health.

And, third, the Italians have become more mature and aware, which led them to refuse old methods of government, methods lacking in seriousness, based on misconduct and corruption; quarrelsome, antagonistic and arrogant.

The Turin newspaper *La Stampa* agrees in its editorial today, that the Communist strategy is clear. The lesson to be drawn by the governing parties is that they should be equally clear and consistent and above all show "the capacity to introduce profound and courageous reforms."

Only in this way could the present type of government now forced on the defensive regain the confidence of the country.

The lack of a social policy despite the social upheavals since the end of the war is widely seen to be responsible for the new situation facing the country. The *Milano Corriere della Sera* points out that Italy has expanded since the liberation but to no have the difficulties and injustices afflicting the greater part of Italian society.

Some are seen as the byproduct of industrialisation—the mass internal migration, congestion in the urban centres, the inadequacy of the public services, housing, the health system and the schools.

But very little indeed has been done to reduce these problems, the newspaper complains. "For the most part they have been left to turn rotten."

Administering a country well in a world facing the great changes is no easy task.

"but Italy has been administered very badly."

The final results of the provincial and municipal elections confirm the results of the regional voting. In almost every important city the Communists are now the largest single party, including Rome. Rome was not one of the municipalities involved in the elections but had been so, to judge from the Roman returns in the regional voting, a Communist mayor in a city which has the Pope as its bishop would have been a distinct likelihood.

There is a general feeling that the Government, a coalition of Christian Democrats and Republicans backed by the Socialists and Social Democrats, will survive the shock for now. Should it fall, the spectre of a general election would begin to materialise.

If the regional results are transposed to the national scene the distribution of seats in the Chamber of Deputies would be as follows (figures in brackets are the present state of the parties): Christian Democrats 243 (265); Communists 206 (175); Socialists 74 (61); Social Democrats 31 (30); Republicans 16 (15); Liberals 10 (20); extreme right 41 (55).

The existing form of coalition based on the centre-left alliance could still function in theory, but Communist pressure would increase strongly as would the uncertainties of the Socialists.

Very much is seen to depend on the behaviour of the Socialists. They attacked the Christian Democrats heavily during the campaign and were counter-attacked equally harshly. Their advance did not compare with that of the Communists; in fact their leaders were quoted today as saying that they had shaken the tree but the Communists had picked up the fruit.

But their conduct could be decisive in adding to or deducting from the consequences of the Communist victory. At the national level the Christian Democratic Party Secretary, Senator Amintore Fanfani, has already proposed strengthening the Government by bringing in the Socialists and Social Democrats as full members and not just supporters. The Socialists have made clear today that they are not thinking on such lines.

At the local government level, they will have many more opportunities now to throw their weight either leftward in local alliances with the Communists or towards the centre in agreements with the Christian Democrats.

Dr Raul Rego, editor of *República*, outside the newspaper's offices in Lisbon after printers occupied them yesterday.

Spanish police claim to have broken up group

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, June 18

The police acknowledged today that 27 political suspects who were taken into custody on May 27 in Ciudad Real were being held for trial. The General Directorate of Security announced in Madrid that the 27 are suspected of being members of "the illegal democratic junta of Ciudad Real, an organization which includes representatives of the Spanish Communist Party, the International Communist Party, the Popular Socialist Party and other individuals."

The police said that illegal propaganda, including many copies of two unauthorized periodicals, was confiscated. They claimed that the arrests meant the breakup of the Communist Party organization in Ciudad Real. Sources said that the group included a French woman, Mme. Françoise Jacqueline Hemmouet, two

doctors, two professors, two lawyers and a law student, among others.

In Valencia, the police announced the arrest of two other political suspects, both of them 21-year-old women. The authorities alleged that the women were responsible for propaganda issued by the Spanish Workers' Party which, according to the police, is the same as the Spanish Communist Party.

In Madrid, Señor Cruz Martínez Esteruelas, the Minister of Education and Science, warned protesting university leaders that, if they went through with their announced threat to give all university students a passing grade in final exams, regardless of how the students did, the teachers would call attention to their claims for more pay and greater job security.

CDU court gag on 'Stern' misfires

From Dan van der Vat, Bonn, June 18

The opposition Christian Democrats (CDU) and the Hamburg weekly magazine *Stern* joined battle today over the publication of an illegal transcript of a telephone call between two leading CDU figures.

Copies of the magazine containing the transcript, sent to *Stern* anonymously by post earlier this month, were on sale in Hamburg today despite a court order yesterday that the text should not be published.

By the time the court order had been granted, the magazine had not only completed much of its printing run, but had also begun passing copies to the distributors. By midday today, photostat copies of the relevant pages were in the hands of many newspaper offices in Bonn, including that of *The Times*.

The Hamburg civil court acted swiftly in granting the CDU application for an interim injunction against publication, but the magazine barred its doors to the process-server. Three hours after being refused entry, the process-server managed to get into the building and served the injunction on a reluctant *Stern* employee.

As he drove off, the employee was seen trying to fasten the paper to the vehicle. A reading of the controversial transcript left observers wondering what all the fuss was about. The main theme of the talk between Dr. Helmut Kohl, chairman of the CDU, and the party's general secretary, Professor Kurt Biedenkopf, was an article which appeared in *Stern* last October, the time of the conversation.

Like many others before and since, the article argued that the CDU was suffering from weak leadership. Judging by the text, already acknowledged as accurate by Professor Biedenkopf, the two leaders were able to shrug the matter off and did not appear terribly upset by it. Nor could the text as published today be described as damaging.

OVERSEAS

Mr Allon says British arms deal would spur Arab militarism

From Eric Marsden, Jerusalem, June 18

Israel's "grave concern" over reports of a £430m British arms deal with Egypt were expressed today by Mr Yigal Allon, the Foreign Minister.

The reports came from Cairo after last week's visit to Britain by Mr Fahim, the Egyptian Foreign Minister.

Mr Allon said that an addition of British weapons to the already sophisticated reservoir of Egyptian armaments was bound to strengthen the Arab tendency among the Arab states.

He disclosed that, in the absence of an unequivocal British denial of the deal, he had summoned Sir Bernard Ledwidge, the British Ambassador, on Saturday night and given him a personal message for Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary.

He had warned Britain against "providing encouragement to the Arabs' assessment that their financial might, posed against the financial distress of the West, makes their money all-powerful." He regretted that

developed countries were aiding Arab states to invest in a further abundance of arms.

The Foreign Minister said that Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, had expressed his concern over the proposed deal to Mr Callaghan on Monday, on his way back from Washington.

Mr Allon pointed out that no new contracts had been signed yet between Britain and Egypt. Britain had reaffirmed its adherence to the principle of not upsetting the balance of forces in the Middle East. Israel was expecting Britain to keep its word and hoped to receive soon fuller clarification.

Mr Allon's meeting with Sir Bernard Ledwidge was discussed by the Cabinet on Sunday. Sir Bernard is understood to have informed Mr Allon that estimates of the extent of the arms deal were premature and that Britain would do all it could not to endanger a Middle East settlement.

According to reports here, leaders of British Jews have decided to protest to the Government about the proposed arms deal.

Egypt agrees in principle to resume negotiations

Cairo, June 18.—Egypt agrees in principle to a resumption of the American initiative to mediate a second-stage Egypt-Israel interim agreement, officials said here today.

They said this was one of the acceptable alternatives which President Sadat discussed with President Ford at their meeting at Salzburg, Austria, on June 1 and 2.

But Egypt will not make a final decision on whether to go along with a revived step-by-step strategy until it has been told about the outcome of the current United States Middle East policy reassessment and the results of last week's Washington talks between Mr Ford

and Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, they said.

The officials were commenting on the announcement in Jerusalem last night that Israel was prepared to pursue negotiations for an interim agreement with Egypt on the Sinai front and make further concessions provided that Egypt reciprocated.

Mr Hermann Eilts, the American Ambassador to Egypt, has gone to Washington for consultations coinciding with the final stages of the American reappraisal of policy. On his return here, probably next week, he is expected to brief the Egyptians on developments in Washington.—UPI.

If you could design the most efficient vegetable for Britain it might look something like this



The sugar beet may seem ludicrous. A comic first cousin to the mangel-wurzel. But in fact it's a highly efficient food source and it lessens our balance of payments deficit by hundreds of millions of pounds.

The sugar beet grows well in this country. Its green tops are used for fodder. Its body is processed for sugar.

The remaining bulk produces molasses and a high energy animal foodstuff.

There is no waste.

British Sugar Corporation Limited buys sugar beet from Britain's farmers and turns it into refined sugar.

We supply a third of Britain's sugar. We could produce half.

Sugar that doesn't have to be imported.

The land is available to grow the extra sugar beet.

Factory processing capacity is being extended.

Our sugar, in common with other EEC producers, costs less than imported sugar. Producing more will help stabilise prices for consumers and Britain's food industry.

Expansion is planned in stages.

And the key to completion is confidence.

The farmers' confidence that EEC beet quotas will increase steadily. That sugar beet prices will be fair.

Our confidence that the future justifies our massive investment plans.

BRITISH SUGAR CORPORATION LIMITED

We produce the sugar for Britain

Britain 'gets the poor architecture deserves'

John Grosz

a bitter attack on architecture planning and civil in postwar Britain. Professor Colin Buchanan said today: "We get exactly our general standard of deserves. I am afraid the taste of the community is poor."

Colin, who was addressing the Royal Town Planning Institution's conference in London, is director of the school of advanced urban studies at University and was named in a report bears his name.

He suggested that £50,000m spent on new development between 1945 and 1970 added:

more than a small fraction of it is worth anything in cultural terms. No contribution to the architectural scene is there."

Explaining, Sir Colin said, might be that there had been insufficient understanding of the difficulties and efficient allocation of resources.

A second explanation for present dissatisfaction, he said, was the architectural "by which I mean our inability to create development which provides delight and convenience so who have to live in it use who have to view it, the field of housing, the block policies have been y disastrous, though is could be advanced to a why we were forced such policies. In the lower local authority housing all we have produced are estates with all that run implies. The speculative developers seem to have done somewhat better."

ion offers duates eers advice

vid Hencke Times Higher Education

ment "counter-information" magazine has been ed by the Association of ific, Technical and Man- Staffs to make graduates aware of opportunities, itfalls in public and pri- industry.

In thousand copies are distributed from to seven students' unions and to officers in universities polytechnics to coincide visits from companies to graduates.

Clive Jenkins, general ry of the ASTMS, said: magazine aims to tell a whether the company is not employable, whether it is being developed in or abroad, and what are ancial prospects of the ny. It will provide in- ion that is not available ipany hand-outs."

Aid to Portugal subject to democratic rule

From Philip Webster, Strasbourg, June 18

Sir Christopher Soames, the European Commissioner responsible for regional policy, said today that continued economic aid to Portugal from the Community must be conditional upon the achievement of a true democracy there.

Speaking during an emergency debate in the European Parliament, Sir Christopher said that the Commission had recommended to the Council of Ministers "an immediate and substantial financial effort to aid Portugal."

Paris to be given control of its own affairs again

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, June 18

Paris, the capital not only of France but of revolution, is at long last to recover the status enjoyed by other towns in the country. One hundred and four years after the Commune of 1871, which convinced the bourgeoisie that Paris was definitely not to be trusted to run itself, it will have a mayor elected for six years like the other 40,000 odd French municipalities.

Until now Paris has had to make do with a largely ceremonial president, elected for one year only, who presided over official ceremonies.

The Cabinet has just approved a Bill reforming the Senate of Paris, so which successive republican regimes, beginning with the Third Republic, have given an increasingly centralising twist.

Ever since Jules Ferry was dismissed from the Hôtel de Ville by the Commune, the real mayor of Paris has been the Prefect appointed by the Government. Since 1959, when he has been three prefects of Paris, the Paris region, and the police—with a huge bureaucracy subservient to them. The president of the Paris Council did not even name his personal staff.

The 90-member council itself is at present limited mainly to approving Bills submitted by the Prefect of Paris. It meets for three sessions totalling a mere 90 days.

There is no permanent committee or delegation of the council to defend the interests of Parisians when the council is not in session. As for the 20 representatives of the districts of the capital, they are headed by mayors and deputy mayors appointed directly by the Ministry of the Interior.

A spate of recent scandals, however, and rumours of speculation showed that the machinery of decision and control was deficient. M. Giscard d'Estaing promised that Paris would have a mayor if he were elected President, and though it has taken a year, he has been as good as his word.

The change will not happen before the municipal elections of 1977, however, although the Bill will be submitted to Parliament before the end of the present session. It provides for a Paris council of 100 members (possibly more), elected for now for six years, which in turn will elect a mayor for the same period.

French magazine to sue union over censorship

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, June 18

The French weekly *Mimam* announced today that it has decided to file legal proceedings against the Paris printers' union which it accuses of having instigated the removal of names of two of its officials mentioned in an article on the *Parisien Libéré* dispute.

Blanket appears in four places in the issue of the right-wing weekly, which is on sale today. The article, headed "The dynamite killers were only waiting for this occasion", makes a virulent attack on the officials and the printers' union.

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The most important provision is the creation of a permanent commission of 14 to 17 councillors, delegated to handle certain types of business between sessions and control the work of the administration.

Mr. Baudrin was found guilty on several counts, including passive corruption (ie the taking of bribes), falsification of accounts and the acceptance of an interest in a private company, while in government service.

During the trial, Mr. Baudrin was alleged to have cost the telephone company hundreds of millions of francs by allowing private companies, in which members of his family had a stake, to reap grossly inflated profits on contracts for construction work and the supply of office equipment.

Belgium jails high official

From Michael Horisby, Brussels, June 18

Mr Germain Baudrin, former general manager of the Belgian state-run telephone and telegraph administration, was sent to prison for four years by a Brussels court today.

His nine-month trial for corruption has evoked comparison with some aspects of the Watergate scandal and Britain's Poindon affair.

The court also ordered about 33m francs (about £400,000) in the possession of the accused to be confiscated and given to charity.

OVERSEAS

President Ford names Army Secretary as his campaign manager

From Fred Emery
Washington, June 18

On the very day when Governor George Wallace was on the point of making clear his already obvious intentions to seek the Democratic nomination for next year's presidential elections, President Ford today announced the appointment of his campaign manager.

He is to be Mr Howard "Bo" Callaway, at present the Secretary of the Army, who will resign to run Mr Ford's campaign committee to be authorized later this week.

The formal announcement of Mr Ford's candidature has, every week for the past few months, confidently been predicted as coming within the next few weeks. It is the way of these things that there should be attempts to create suspense when there is none.

Governor Wallace, who is already the centre of intense attack from his orthodox Democratic rivals, was to have made his formal announcement today, his staff said. But he has deferred, while leaving it completely obvious.

Amid all this flutter, Mr Ronald Reagan has not formally ruled out accepting an invitation to be Mr Ford's running-mate. The President has already indicated his preference for retaining Vice-President Rockefeller,

but has meticulously left it to the party convention. Mr Reagan, asked how he would respond to a Ford invitation, replied: "Every day of my life I hope it doesn't happen." That sounded rather unwilling, but it was not categorical enough for the pundits, who immediately made him "a possible for the number two spot." In fact Mr Reagan would like to challenge Mr Ford for the number one spot.

The Democrats are having trouble of a different kind. The younger Democratic congressmen, frustrated with the mess the leadership has been making of legislation, are calling for the Speaker. They are presenting a number of ultimatums, provoking Mr Albert to retort: "They don't want a Speaker, they want a bounce."

One other firm development on the Washington political scene today was the resignation of Mr Jack Bennett, the Treasury Under-Secretary for Monetary Affairs. He reportedly wanted to return to private life. No successor was announced by the White House.

Mr Bennett has been the chief American representative in international monetary negotiations, at sub-ministerial level. He has been in the post for a year, but never made the impact attained by his predecessor.

S African blacks see no progress in race relations

From Our Own Correspondent
Cape Town, June 18

The majority of urban Africans in South Africa feel that there has been no improvement in black-white relations in the republic despite the Government's détente policies in the rest of Africa.

According to an opinion survey published today, only 10 per cent of the Africans polled considered that race relations had improved in the past two years. More than 75 per cent felt things were much the same and 13 per cent believed they had deteriorated.

The situation appears more disturbing when the figures are compared with findings two years ago which indicated that a third of the Africans polled believed black-white relations were improving.

Marking the market research concern which organized the poll, suggests that the impact of higher wages may have been neutralized by the effects of inflation.

Mrs Gandhi gets backing of Congress MPs

From Our Correspondent
Delhi, June 18

The Congress Parliamentary Party has reaffirmed its unanimous support for Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, who has been under political pressure since the Allahabad High Court judgement against her for corrupt election practices.

At a specially convened meeting today, the 516-member party said in a resolution that the leadership of Mrs Gandhi was "more than ever" necessary now when the country was facing internal and external dangers.

Yashwantrao Chavan, Minister of Food and Agriculture, who is said to be Mrs Gandhi's rival, moved the resolution, and Mr Y. B. Chavan, the Foreign Minister, seconded it.

Today's vote ended the rumour that Mrs Gandhi's leadership within the party may still develop if she is deprived of her parliamentary role.



President Giscard d'Estaing, who is on a visit to Poland, receiving a gift of silver plates yesterday from steel workers in Katowice. With him (right) is Mr Gierek, the Polish Communist leader.

Mr Tsatsos likely to be voted Greek President

From Mario Modiano
Athens, June 18

The main Greek political parties today nominated two of the country's most respected scholar-politicians as their candidates for the office of President of the Republic in tomorrow's election by Parliament.

Mr Constantine Tsatsos, aged 76, member of Parliament, academician and philosopher, was nominated by Mr Konstantinos Karamanlis, the Prime Minister. His election is virtually assured since the New Democracy, the ruling party, holds 216 seats out of 300. The successful candidate would require a two-thirds majority.

Mr Panayotis Kanellopoulos, aged 72, the former Prime Minister, scholar and poet, who enjoys broad popularity because of his courageous and defiant stand during the dictatorship, was proposed by Mr George Papandreu, leader of the Centre Union-New Forces.

It is generally assumed that Mr Tsatsos will be President for a period of between 10 and 14 months, before ceding it to Mr Karamanlis. Mr Karamanlis, however, as Prime Minister, he will manage within that time to solve most of the crucial internal and external problems.

Lord Avon denies he wanted Nasser killed

Continued from page 1

At first uncertain whether Sir Anthony had been Foreign Secretary or Prime Minister at the time of their discussions.

But when it was explained to him that Churchill retired in 1955, Mr Copeland placed his discussions with Sir Anthony in 1956—at which time he was Prime Minister—between Nasser's seizure of the Suez Canal and the Franco-British invasion.

Mr Copeland said Mr George Young, whom he described as "deputy head of British intelligence under Dick White," was in the talks with him and Sir Anthony and Sir Patrick Dean (the former British Ambassador to Washington who was then at the Foreign Office).

Mr Copeland went on: "Eden hated Nasser. He kept bugging (nagging) us. The Egyptian Nasser 'or anyone else' when he was Prime Minister."

"This is a load of rubbish, a lot of wild stuff," he said in London. Asked whether he remembered meeting Mr Copeland, Lord Avon said he had heard the name but did not recall meeting him. "I've met a lot of people in my time and I can't recall all their names," he said.

Of the alleged meeting with Mr Young and Sir Patrick Dean, Lord Avon said: "I have no recollection of any such discussions and I certainly never talked about murdering anyone."

Asked what intelligence men did in such cases when the "antis" such as the purported Egyptian colonels "were afraid" to leave such a big man as Nasser alive after a coup, Mr Copeland ventured: "Well, you look the other way."

According to Mr Copeland, he was interviewed in the Hotel Mayflower, Washington, this week by a Senate committee staff investigator named Mr Thwaitt. However, a committee spokesman said: "There is no record in the committee of Mr Copeland being interviewed by anyone." There was no one on the committee staff by the name of Thwaitt.

Our Foreign Staff write: In an indignant denial of the allegation Lord Avon said last night that he had never discussed the assassination of President Nasser "or anyone else" when he was Prime Minister.

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It is something approaching a minor supposition is detectable among western delegates, this is because, as one remarked, "We are now getting results that would have seemed impossible nine months ago."

But they do not, for instance, really anticipate that the signed conference recommendations will have any early impact on cold reality.

In brief

Asian contest for UN seat

Rawalpindi, June 18.—Pakistan is determined to contest the Asian seat in the United Nations Security Council against India. The seat is to be vacated by Iraq at the end of its two years term later this year.

Apparently, Pakistan's main aim is to prevent India being elected to the Security Council and it would be happy to withdraw from the contest if any other country, such as Iran or Sri Lanka, were to come forward to fill the Asian seat.

Churches protest

Johannesburg, June 18.—The executive of the South African Council of Churches today voiced "strongest condemnation" of the expulsion from South West Africa of the Right Rev Richard Wood, the Bishop Suffragan of the See of Damara-land, South West Africa.

Wives strike back

Lusaka, June 18.—The Times of Zambia today reported that a group of women in Ndola, on the Zambian copper-belt, have formed vigilante squads to beat up single girls they suspect of having affairs with their husbands.

Museum banqueters

Hongkong, June 18.—A seven-member delegation from the British Museum was honoured at a banquet tonight given by Mr Wang Yeh-chiu, director of the Administrative Bureau of Museums and Archaeological Data.

Blacks jailed

Bloemfontein, June 18.—Two South African blacks were today jailed for five years by the Supreme Court for trying to undergo military training to help the banned African National Congress movement to overthrow the regime.

'Spy' in orbit

Cape Canaveral, Florida, June 18.—The United States Air Force launched a large experimental spy satellite at dawn today into what was believed to be a stationary orbit over the Soviet Union or China.

Volcano kills two

San José, Costa Rica, June 18.—Two people were killed and eight reported missing after the volcano Arenal erupted in Guanacaste province, northern Costa Rica, yesterday. Farm plantations were burnt out.

Spotlight on women

Mexico City, June 18.—The last of some 10,000 delegates from many nations poured into Mexico City today for a United Nations sponsored conference aimed at advancing women's rights.

Russians take off the brakes at Geneva

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, June 18

Occasional ripples of optimism have become a ground swell in the 35-nation European security conference which is rapidly approaching a successful conclusion.

This largely results from Mr Brezhnev's desire for a final in Helsinki having been communicated to the Soviet negotiators in the form of precise instructions.

"They are obviously under intense time pressure to wrap the thing up," one seasoned western delegate said. "Seldom have I seen a Soviet delegation in such disarray."

He and many others believe that if the present rate of progress can be maintained, a summit meeting, at which the conference's final communiqué will be signed, could be set up at the end of next month in Helsinki. It was there that the whole process, aimed at bringing East and West into better understanding, started three years ago.

The big stumbling block, the so-called "Basket Three," is expected to be ready by Monday night; these are proposals for freer movements and contacts, including travel and the flow of information.

The West has not, naturally, obtained all it sought. Things like the proposed East-West magazine—an old-fashioned concept anyway—and television programme exchanges have gone by the board. But the board has recommended on individual travel, marriages and family reunions.

"Basket Four"—proposals for a follow-up to the conference—is regarded as crucial by western nations, the neutrals and Romania because the conference's final documents will, after all, be recommendations without binding legal commitments.

Regular review conferences would give the opportunity to assess how governments are conforming to the standards they agreed to set themselves.

The main problem outstanding is on the parameters of advance notification of military manoeuvres. Disagreement remains on the depth of the zone to which notification would relate (the Russians say 150 kilometres; the West, 450 kilometres); the troop threshold (30,000 the Russians say, the West, 16,000) and the period of notice (Russians 18 days, West four weeks).

It is something approaching a minor supposition is detectable among western delegates, this is because, as one remarked, "We are now getting results that would have seemed impossible nine months ago."

But they do not, for instance, really anticipate that the signed conference recommendations will have any early impact on cold reality.

Angola talks are going well, rivals agree

Nakuru, Kenya, June 18.—

Leaders of the three rival Angolan liberation movements have reached agreement on ways to streamline their transitional Government, but progress in their summit talks here appeared today slower than expected.

After two and a half days of talks at President Kenyatta's residence, all three Angolan leaders confirmed that discussions about the preparations for independence from Portugal in November were going well.

But Dr Agostinho Neto, leader of the Marxist-oriented Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), said the meeting could last another three or four days. Originally it was expected to end tomorrow.

Dr Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), also said that the talks were making progress, while Dr Holden Roberto, of the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA), commented: "I agree things are going well."

A delegate disclosed that the talks, called to end the differences between the three movements after violent clashes which have claimed more than 1,000 lives, had centred on arming civilians and the role of members of the former Portuguese colonial secret police Angola. Most of yesterday's discussions concerned the curbing of some transitional Government machinery, which had a decision-making almost in sible.—Reuter.

General Antonio da Cardoso, Portuguese High Commissioner in Luanda, has said that Angola's petrol pipelines should be kept open to allow drivers to escape a fuel shortage, Portuguese authorities announced.

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Stonehouse argument of no case to answer

From Our Correspondent
Melbourne, June 18

There was insufficient evidence against Mr John Stonehouse, the British MP, to justify extraditing him to Britain, his lawyer, Mr A. J. Patterson, argued in Melbourne magistrates' court today. There was no case for Mr Stonehouse to answer the 21 charges of fraud, theft and conspiracy that are the subject of a warrant for his extradition, he said.

Mr Patterson added that there was evidence from an eminent Australian psychiatrist that Mr Stonehouse had "gone through a form of psychiatric suicide" at the time of his disappearance from Miami last year. There was no evidence that he had fabricated evidence of his own death. The evidence indicated that Mr Stonehouse had developed a second personality, and because of business and political pressures, had decided he would disappear if talks in Miami failed.

Although the insurance policies were taken out by Mrs Barbara Stonehouse, Mr Patterson said, the presumption of death did not arise from simple fact of her husband's disappearance. It would arise only seven years after he had last been seen. There was evidence that the insurance company had not incurred liability.

Mr Stonehouse had not committed fraud, it would be an application for birth certificates for Joseph Arthur Ham and Donald Clive Ham. There was insufficient evidence that he had committed fraud, it would be an application for birth certificates for Joseph Arthur Ham and Donald Clive Ham. There was insufficient evidence that he had committed fraud, it would be an application for birth certificates for Joseph Arthur Ham and Donald Clive Ham.

Mr George Hempel, for Buckley, told the court there was no evidence that he had acted dishonestly in signing of cheques or the had conspired with Mr Stonehouse.

The hearing is expected to continue tomorrow.

Suicide after jury's verdict

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, June 18

A senior official of a Massachusetts state agency shot and killed himself in court in Boston last night after being found guilty of extortion. As the jury announced the verdict, he reached into his briefcase, pulled out a pistol, and shot himself in the head.

Mr Masjo Condon, 49, was the chief parks engineer of the metropolitan district mission, which is responsible for parks and islands in a Boston. The prosecution sought a \$52,000 (\$27,391) in extortions and \$50,000 in losses to houses that he or his owned.

US blamed for attempted coup by Zaire officers

Kinshasa, June 18.—Three

generals, a colonel, and two majors were named by the Zaire newspaper *Salongo* today as the chief conspirators in a plot to assassinate President Mobutu Sese Seko.

The newspaper, quoted by the Zaire news agency, said that the abortive plot was inspired from abroad, and it accused the United States of bending over backwards in vain to deny "these flagrant acts."

Previous reports published here have also accused the United States of involvement in the abortive attempt, which was said to have taken place a few days ago. The State Department has denied the allegations.

The newspaper *Salongo* named the alleged plotters as General Katumba Wasiwasi, aged 36; General Fallu Sumbu, aged 39; and General Ushudi Wembolenga, aged 45; Colonel Omba Pene Djunga, aged 37; Major Bula Sumbu Bakila,

Canada to cur entry of British doctors

From John Roper
Medical Reporter
Ottawa, June 18

Canada is likely to close door to most immigrant doctors including British graduates present about 1,200 are in each year. The number expected to drop to 200 soon.

The decision follows an eight-year study of the country's foreign-born doctors, the results of which will be published this year. It will affect British doctors. In a recent survey in Britain, Canada was the top of the list by thinking of emigrating.

Mr Jean Lupien, the D Minister of Health, said today that the Government judgment that the country is self-sufficient in medical power.

Limiting the admission of doctors was not yet a formal policy, but he said that this would

President Kim upsets Moscow

From David Bonavia
Peking, June 18

Two events this month are likely to give fresh impetus to the Sino-Soviet dispute. One is the reopening of the Suez Canal. The other is the return of President Kim Il Sung to North Korea via China after a tour of the Balkans and North Africa.

Chinese officials have taken note of the warning, given by Mr James Schlesinger, the United States Defence Secretary, that there are now some 19 Soviet naval ships regularly in the Indian Ocean and that the Diego Garcia facility must be expanded to cope with a further Russian build-up in the area.

This development—threatening a stronger Soviet naval thrust into South-east Asian waters—has coincided with Peking's diplomatic coup in opening relations with the Philippines ahead of Moscow.

President Marcos, who visited China last week, even agreed to the inclusion in the joint communiqué of an "anti-hegemony" clause—"of the type at which Japan has balked in negotiations over a peace treaty with China for fear of offending the Soviet Union too much."

China has also scored an important success with North Korea. Moscow has been plagued by President Kim's failure to visit the Soviet Union during his recent tour of Romania, Yugoslavia, Algeria, Mauritania and Bulgaria. The opening of a direct air link between China and the Balkans means that the Koreans no longer have to rely so heavily on Russia as their

route of communications to the outside world. It needs little more to world communist movements appear to be split between Europe and Asia—two divisions which go again principles of Marxist nationalism. If Cambodia leans towards China, that will leave Asia only China and the Soviet Union to firmly under Moscow's control.

On the other hand, commands varying degrees of support in the Balkans, Albania, Yugoslavia, Romania resist Russia's attempt to read her out of the communist movement and to oppose any pressure Soviet troops on their own.

Despite these overlaps continental division of Marxist movement is becoming more marked.

Scheel warning on détente

Washington, June 18.—President

Scheel of West Germany left Washington for Chicago today after a two-day official visit during which he conferred with President Ford and addressed a joint session of Congress.

During his stay here, Herr Scheel expressed concern over Communist election gains in Italy and warned Congress that, despite détente, there could be no cessation in the ideological

99.95pc landst in Soviet poll

Moscow, June 18.—19 voters gave their usual unanimous support—99.95 per cent—to state-sponsored dates in last Sunday's election to the parliament and council of the 15 republics.

Figures published by news agency said 99.95 per cent of those eligible to vote took part of whom 4.7 per cent voted for a single candidate party.



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use arguments
to answer

MR KAUFMAN said it was not for him to indicate what kind of amendments would be made. Consultations with the TUC, for example, were still continuing. There was going to be no emasculating amendments.

Attention had been drawn to his late arrival in this department. He had not spent 15 months carrying out his duties as Secretary of the Department of the Environment to come to the Department of Industry and sell out Labour Party policy there.

I am sure the said in order to carry out the policy of this Government, and that is what I intend to do.

In answer to what he had said, he hoped the House would agree that it was right to extend the final consideration of this Bill by a day, and that the Opposition were being utterly extravagant, particularly in view of their own cavalier attitude towards guillotine motions in the past, in moving their amendment.

MR TOM KING, an Opposition spokesman on industry (Bridgewater, C), said concern had been expressed at the contempt shown to the standing committee in no less than 40 sittings on the Bill. The latter proceedings had been "a farce" and the last two sittings were reduced to uselessness.

If further amendments were put forward, he thought the discussion the House should be given an opportunity of discussing them, and that there must be time for it at report stage. Four days was the minimum required.

The Opposition amendment was rejected by 162 votes in 1962.

The Government motion was carried by 185 votes to six—Government majority, 20.

d to court

active consideration by the Home Office Committee.

I understand that various matters which may have a bearing on this problem have also been considered by the Thomson Committee on criminal procedure in Scotland.

play

community

meeting in public and its annual Congress was broken up.

Although they could still say that pluralistic democracy existed in Portugal—the elections had taken place and the convention was opening, although it was doing so under conditions laid down beforehand by the Armed Forces Movement—if things continued as at present, at what point did the principle of giving aid to a country in grave economic difficulty begin to conflict with the principle that they did not interfere in the internal affairs of an associated country? That was the dilemma.

Parliament must be vigilant as to the way things developed, as vigilant as they were in the case of Greece a few years ago, and they must have in the forefront of their minds that there might come a time, although he hoped it would not happen, when they might have to say these two things conflated and they would have to make a choice one way or another.

SIR C. SOAMES said this was not a question of interfering in another country's internal affairs. When democracy was overthrown for a period in Greece the Community drew its own conclusions and made its own decisions.

tugal. The Community must consider this. The Commission proposed that they should discuss with the Portuguese authorities what

projects could be undertaken in the interests of Portugal and that these should be seen through by a form of coordinating committee of member states, the Commission and the Portuguese authorities, making them project by project. This was not a massive sum of money from one day to the next.

The debate had shown to the world that the European Parliament should be a body in which the Community should offer genuine aid in the context of the expressed need for a more democratic process towards a pluralist democracy.

Development of powers

Further progress towards European integration could not be made except through the action of the European Parliament and, as the

method of election, said DR GARRETT FITZGERALD, the Irish Foreign Minister and retiring President in Office of the Council of Ministers, in a farewell address.

He said one of the objects of the Irish Presidency had been to strengthen the relationship with Parliament.

On Ireland's proposal, it had been agreed, subject to two reservations which he hoped would soon be lifted, that direct elections would be introduced in 1978. These

being meaningful and if people were going to feel it worthwhile to come out and vote, must be preceded by a strengthening of Parliament by giving it some legislative role in

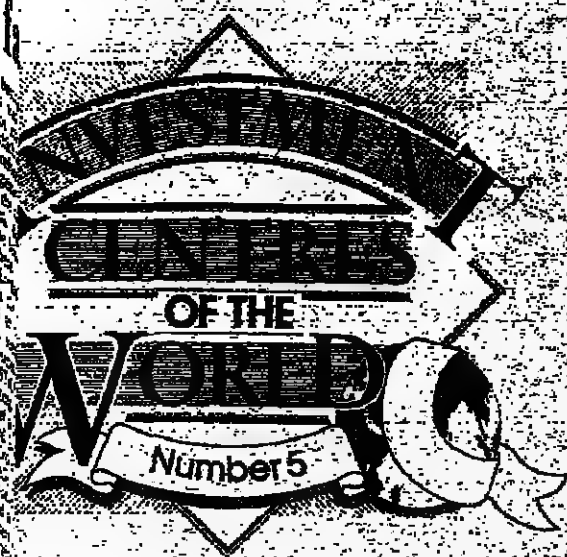
It was his personal conviction that these direct elections must be preceded by a strengthening of Parliament.

Direct elections would be followed by a rapid expansion of Parliament's functions and powers

nationals

against multinational companies as such and consider and evolve the necessary safeguards without the more general context of the Community's current review of company law and practice? (Conservative cheers.)

MR. BORSCHETTE—There is no discrimination against multinationals as a feature of the modern economy. The Commission feels there should be no discrimination between multinationals and other companies. In any case from the point of view of the Community and the Rome Treaty there is no possible discrimination against multinationals. That does not mean that multinationals, like other companies, should not be subject to certain disciplines.



United Arab Emirates

From rags to riches—for the seven shajhadoms

by Hopkirk

recently they counted seven small emirates scattered along the barren coastline in for linking the price of oil to the rate of inflation. Until recently Britain, with its long associations with the seven emirates, was the chief supplier of their needs. But now the al-Qaywayn and the al-Qasbiyah, while fewer in number, have moved to the top of the league, providing 21 per cent of the federation's imports against Britain's 13 per cent. The United States lies close behind Britain with 11 per cent.

The pace of development, particularly in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, is remarkable. Abu Dhabi, the federal capital, is today one of the most rapidly developing cities in the world, with a population of 150,000. The pace of development is also reflected in the rapid increase in the number of international airports. Only a few years ago it was a small fishing community of mud and palm frond dwellings. Today the UAE has more than a head of population than anywhere else on earth, while before long this little country will be supporting four international airports.

It was the discovery of oil, first in Abu Dhabi, then in Dubai, and now in Sharjah, which has so dramatically reshaped the destiny and appearance of this once remote corner of the Arabian Peninsula. Bringing with it the promise of a new life, the oil has brought a new era of prosperity and growth. The cost of building such a life is the power of the oil, the lifeblood of the world today, and

the fear of finding oneself without it, that for so small a nation the UAE has an influence out of all relation to its size or military potential. It is said that it was Sheikh Zayed, ruler of Abu Dhabi and president of the federation, who first suggested the use of the oil wealth to aid parts of the country's surplus. His generosity, however, as well as his own vast personal fortune, is now legendary. The UAE gives away 10 per cent of its wealth to other countries, and has many friends among the world's poorer nations. Twenty-six countries have now opened embassies in the UAE, with others in the queue, while the UAE has 18 ambassadors overseas as well as a permanent representative at the United Nations.

There is a new spirit of détente in the Persian Gulf region today, and the UAE recently patched up its border dispute with Saudi Arabia, this enabling the "missing" stretch in the highway through to Europe to be started at last. However, there are still problems to be resolved at home before federation is fully realised. Plural marriage, the EEC is discovering, breeds inevitable tensions. One of these is over the question of money. Until now, Abu Dhabi has financed the whole of the federal budget (which is, in total, only a fraction of the size of its own). For Dubai and perhaps Sharjah apart, the other emirates are still too poor to contribute. The vexed issue of who should contribute, came suddenly into the open two days after the federal budget appropriations became known. The official federal newspaper, *Al-Itihad*, bluntly raised the question of whether everyone is pulling his weight. The paper's chief editor declared that moral support for the federation, by its members, was not enough. Those who could afford to had to help to pay for it. Although he did not name anyone, his attack was clearly aimed at Dubai, second richest of the seven. During the budget debate in the National Assembly several members tried to discover whether or not Dubai had paid any contribution, though without success. But it can be seen from Abu Dhabi's own budget appropriations that this year Sheikh Zayed is looking to others to find 10 per cent of the federal budget. Those who have most to gain from federation with Abu Dhabi are the four poorest emirates, Ras al-Khaymah, Ajman, Umm al-Qaywayn and Fujairah. Although they have not yet given up hope of striking oil, they are among the poorest communities of the region and almost entirely dependent upon Abu Dhabi's millions for their development. At the same time, their rulers are anxious to retain, within the context of federation, as much of their authority and autonomy as possible. One thorny question is whether they should derogate command of their police forces and, in some cases, private armies to integration within a federal command structure. Although this was agreed to last month at a meeting of the seven rulers, it was only in principle, and the UAE may well continue for some

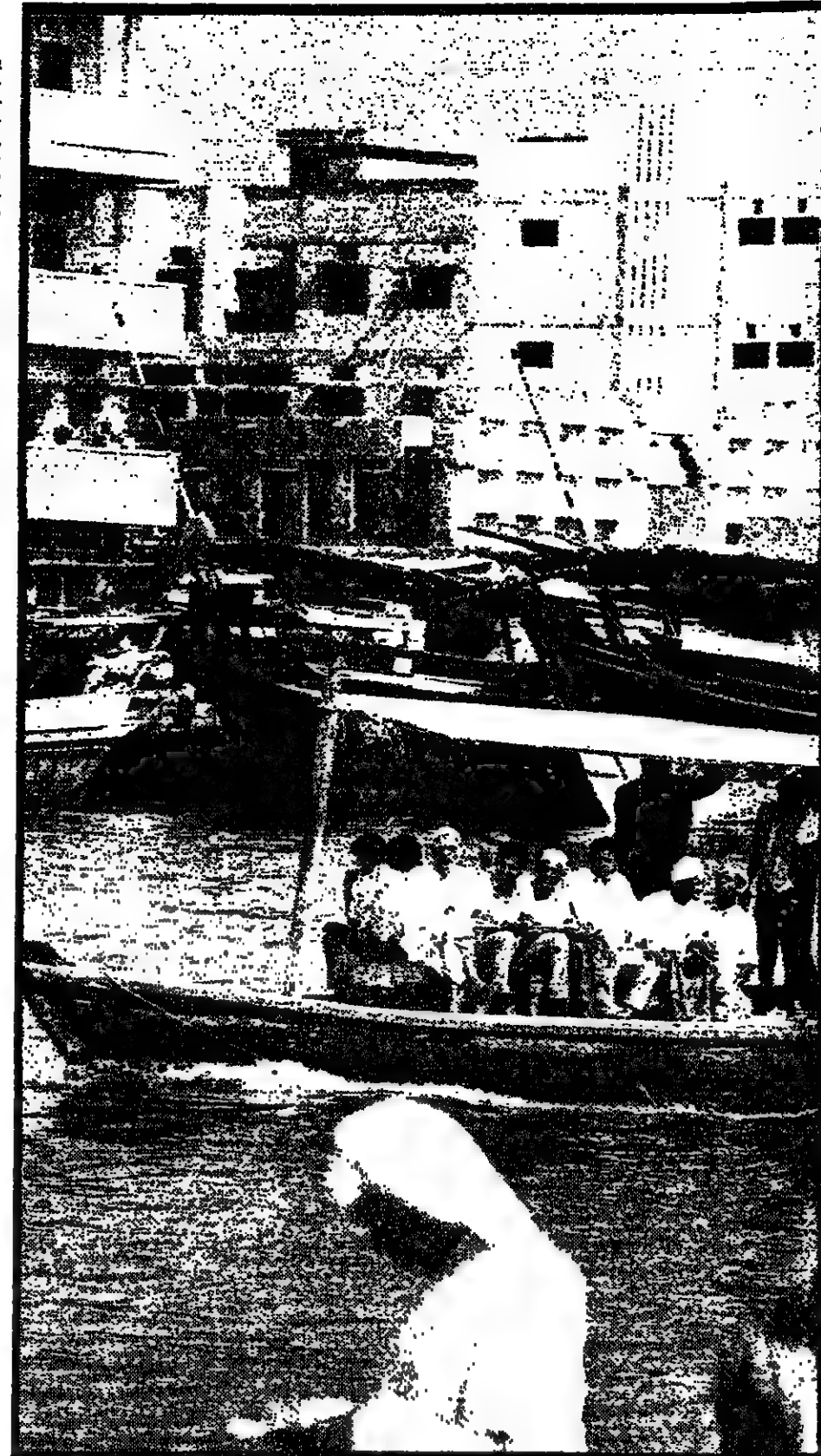
Price-cutting as world demand falls

by Roger Vielvoye
Energy Correspondent

Oil experts in Abu Dhabi are well aware of the problems that the complex system of premiums for high-quality oil can bring. During the boom times when demand for high-quality, low-sulphur-content oil, particularly from Japan and the United States, was outstripping supply, the premium helped to swell the country's oil revenues.

But last year, as world demand for oil began to tail off in the wake of an economic recession, a warm winter and energy conservation measures, the countries with oil prices that were inflated because of the premiums found they were the principal sufferers from surplus of oil.

In Libreville last week the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) set up a commission to sort out the tangled web of quality premiums and other differentials between the prices of oil in different countries. On the surface it seemed a sensible, non-controversial move, but this disguised the very real concern being expressed by experts in the Opec secretariat at the effect of price-cutting through the adjustment of premiums was having. In a strongly worded report it gave warning that price-cutting of this sort could eventually undermine the Opec pricing structure and the organization itself.



Traditional craft against a background of concrete buildings in busy Dubai harbour.

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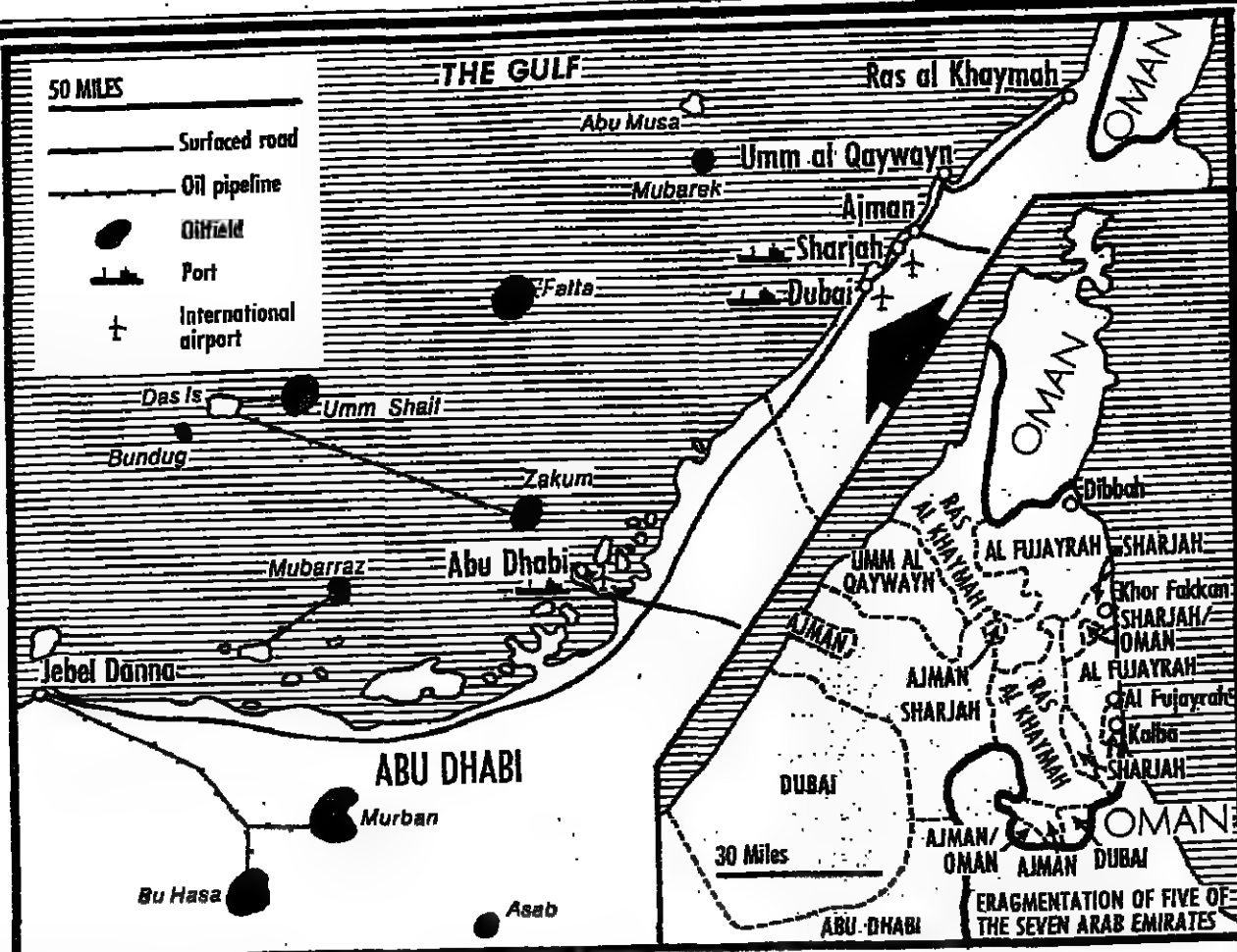
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Boundaries that vanish in the sand

by Peter Hopkirk

Apart from a common language, currency and flag—and a lot of sand—the seven United Arab Emirates are as different as their names are picturesque. They lie scattered across the Musandam Peninsula and northern fringes of the Empty Quarter like a weird jigsaw puzzle, unique in geography. For instead of the seven pieces one might expect, the map shows many more.

Five of the seven emirates consist of two, three or even four pieces. To travel to another part of a ruler's territory, one must pass through at least one neighbouring emirate. To confuse things even more, there is a small part of neighbouring Oman, which is not a UAE member, at the northern tip of the federation.

The reason for the cartographer's nightmare is that sovereignty was originally based on tribal allegiances rather than frontiers. Thus the outlines of what is now the UAE were often imposed by British political agents endeavouring to resolve tribal wars. There is little on the ground today to indicate where many of these boundaries run, and even the official maps are open to question.

Abu Dhabi is the emirate

which forms the largest piece of the jigsaw, a vast kingdom of sand ruled by Sheikh Zayed, one of the richest men in the world, from a small triangular-shaped island of the same name. Because of its large oil revenue, Abu Dhabi has in a few years progressed from one of the poorest and most backward of the seven shajidoms to by far the richest. With its great wealth and energetic ruler, who is also president of the UAE, it tends to dominate the other six.

Abu Dhabi is the world's richest country with a per capita income more than double that of the United States. It is said to be the only country with more millionaires than graduates, an imbalance that Sheikh Zayed is endeavouring to remedy. Yet only 15 years ago its capital was no more than an impoverished fishing community of mud and palm-frond dwellings, whose inhabitants scratched a living from the sale of dates and from fishing the warm waters of the Gulf.

Things changed slowly at first, for Sheikh Shakhbut, then ruler, was deeply conservative. He lived humbly and expected the same of his subjects. The one luxury he allowed himself was an air-conditioned car in his bedroom, in a land where summer temperatures reach 120° in the shade and humidity can reach 100 per cent.

In 1966, Sheikh Shakhbut was deposed by his family and Sheikh Zayed, for some years governor of the oasis of Al Ain, took over. He has since shown himself to be an extremely progressive ruler as well as a passionate advocate of the need for

No one could describe Abu Dhabi as beautiful, but it has all the excitement of a boom town. Behind his urbane and approachable manner, Sheikh Zayed is a shrewd and formidable leader, with a profound understanding of his people and their needs. He grew up in a tough and traditional society in which only the fittest survived. Of his 15 predecessors, eight were assassinated, five dethroned by their family. Only two died peacefully in their beds while still in power.

He is a firm believer in the benefits of modern bureaucracy, and surrounds himself with civil servants. Abu Dhabi has many federal ministries. In common with all the Gulf states from Kuwait to Oman, the UAE suffers from a shortage of skilled and educated men. To man the federal civil service as well as Abu Dhabi's own bureaucracy, Sheikh Zayed has had to hire an army of expatriates.

It is estimated that up to 80 per cent of Abu Dhabi's population consists of aliens, from both Arab countries and others, including Britain. It would probably be possible to spend a week in Abu Dhabi without meeting a native Abu Dhabi.

To reach neighbouring Dubai, second richest of the seven, one can fly (about 25 minutes) or take the fast but dangerous desert highway (100 minutes). Dubai, which has been called the "Hong Kong of the Gulf", is totally different in character from its neighbour.

Built astride its colourful dhow-lined creek, once the haunt of pirates, it is a flourishing modern city, fast taking over the surrounding desert. Even

without its oil, Dubai is extremely prosperous, although it has only a fifth of Abu Dhabi's wealth. Since the decline of Sharjah, its northern neighbour, in the 1950s, Dubai has enjoyed the monopoly of the entire Gulf. Buying and selling (and smuggling) are Dubai's preoccupations, and oil is looked upon merely as a bonus.

Dubai is ruled by the remarkable Sheikh Rashid, who believes passionately in centralized planning. While Rashid, a merchant prince if ever one lived, is an equally ardent apostle of the free market, with a constant preoccupation for regulations and civil servants. In his own emirate (he is also vice-president of the UAE) he has a minimal civil service.

Restrictions on private enterprise are kept to a minimum, a philosophy which appears justified judging from the emirate's obvious prosperity. The shops and stores, which are owned by people from many different countries, offer goods from most countries. No one pays income tax, and super grade petrol costs 22p a gallon. Gin is about £1.20 a bottle for residents. They must buy driving licences costing £10 which entitles them to purchase 40 bottles of spirits a month.

For all that, there are imperfections. First, there is the heat, as everywhere else in the Gulf, which even Arabs find wearing after a long, sticky summer. Then there is inflation, of the classic imported type, which makes a glass of orange juice in the Dubai International Hotel cost £1.

Dubai is one of the five fragmented emirates, owning an enclave, or dependency, elsewhere in the federation jigsaw. To reach it, one must pass through other emirates, Sharjah and Ras al Khaymah, or alternatively through the neighbouring country of Oman.

Sharjah is only a few minutes' drive from Dubai, but the distance is a long, sticky summer. Then there is inflation, of the classic imported type, which makes a glass of orange juice in the Dubai International Hotel cost £1.

Once it was the most prosperous of the seven, but in the 1950s, its creek was allowed to silt up and a storm put paid to its harbour, allowing Dubai to take the entrepot trade monopoly.

However, Sharjah recently became an oil producer, and is thus set for an economic revival. Apart from its ambitious plans for self-development, it has an important asset. One of its dependencies lies on the Indian Ocean side of the Musandam Peninsula and possesses the only deep-water harbour on the federation's east coast, at Khor Fakkan.

Shipping at Khor Fakkan should save two days for vessels calling there rather than at the federation's two main ports of Mina Rashid and Mina Layyah, which lie inside the Gulf. A new Tarmac road across the peninsula should be complete later this year, enabling goods unloaded at Khor Fakkan to be taken overland to the other emirates.

The Sheikh Sultan, Sharjah's ruler, intends not only to develop Khor Fakkan as a port, but also plans to open

up his east coast territory, with its dramatic mountain backdrop and fine beaches, to tourists. Sharjah town is a small, homely and picturesque community, its beautiful beaches lined with shells of remarkable hues. It has a charming old suk, or native market, where the antiques of the lower Gulf can still be found, although the forgers are already at work.

Those who remember Sharjah as a staging point for the pre-war flying boats of Imperial Airways, will find a good deal that is still recognizable, though not for much longer.

We are still left with the four least-known emirates—Ras al Khaymah, Ajman, Umm al Qaywayn and Al Fujairah. None of them has yet struck oil, although the prospects for Ras al Khaymah appear promising and the proposed geological survey of the northern UAE may yield other minerals. In the meantime, the federal budget, as well as Sheikh Zayed's personal generosity, helps carry the four poorest UAE members.

However, they have some assets to contribute. Ras al Khaymah has the highest rainfall and most fertile land of all seven emirates. Apart from being the main source of agriculture in the UAE, it also has a small but thriving fishing industry. Together these form the basis of its economy, though the discovery of oil would change all that.

Once Ras al Khaymah was a haven for Arab pirates who in the nineteenth century were the terror of British East India men plying the Gulf. Modern Arab historians, however, view these freedom fighters protecting their sovereign waters against foreign trespassers and invaders.

The town of Ras al Khaymah was twice, in 1819 and 1819, destroyed by British assault parties in an attempt to protect vessels using the Gulf. Eventually the problem was solved by treaty, which is how Britain's long association with the lower Gulf emirates began.

Ajman is the smallest of the UAE members, with a population of about 5,000. Fishing and dhow-building are almost its only sources of income, and its 500 square miles of territory are almost entirely barren save for a small enclave near the foothills of the Hajar mountains.

Shaikh Ahmed, ruler of Umm al Qaywayn, still hopes to strike oil, and he recently gave four companies for exploration. Fishing is the sole source of income apart from the takings in the casino.

Last, there is Fujairah, ruled by Sheikh Hehad, which comprises two enclaves, both of which lie on the federation's east coast. It is thus separated from the other emirates by the Hajar mountains. There have been reports that uranium has been found there.

So far, because it is cut off from the rest of the UAE by a forbidding mountain barrier, not much of the federation's oil wealth has filtered through to Fujairah, though this should change rapidly when the new road being blasted through the mountains is opened. No oil has yet been found in Fujairah, and mineral prospects apart, the development of the emirate's fisheries appears to be its best hope.

Price-cutting as world demand falls

continued from page 1

Pricing according to the gravity of the oil is more specific. The higher the value of the oil, a principle that is reflected in the pricing structure. The latest study will decide where the price differentials on high quality oil really reflect the true market value of the crude.

The other aspect of interest to Abu Dhabi which will be considered by the commission is the question of freight premiums, the oil producers' method of ensuring that the price of oil from countries closer to the main industrial markets is roughly

equal to that of supplies carried over longer distances. The decline in tanker freight rates and the reopening of the Suez Canal have made this policy largely ineffective. The commission will probably not start work in earnest until they receive a "world energy model" from the Battelle Memorial Institute, which they hope will provide positive guidance on the relative values of oil.

A report on price differentials is expected at the next meeting of Opec on September 24. At the same meeting the organization will decide on the new prices to be charged for crude oil after

the nine-month freeze on oil cost increases ends on October 1. A decision has been taken in principle to raise the prices, but so far opinions vary on just how large the increase will be. Many states want to recoup the 25 to 35 per cent erosion of their buying powers by inflation during the nine months of the freeze, but opposing this is a smaller but influential group that feels the market could not stand a further 53 a barrel at a time when western economies would just be climbing out of the depths of a prolonged recession.

Buying and selling are the life of Dubai, of which a corner of old town is shown above.

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Despite the harsh climatic conditions, modern science and technology are being used in the United Arab Emirates to establish a number of high yielding agricultural projects which are factually...



...making the desert bloom

THE AGE OLD image of the Arab world consisting of vast areas of arid desert is rapidly becoming a reputation of the past, as funds are allocated to finance the establishment of agriculture as a major industry. The United Arab Emirates, situated on the southern shores of the Arabian Gulf, is fast developing its agricultural industries, and expects to be virtually self-sufficient in food production within a few years.

The technical aspect of arid-zone afforestation and agriculture embraces many difficulties created not only by the natural conditions, but also because previous experience is rare.

The climate is hot and dry from May to October, and relatively mild with small annual rainfall during the winter season. Although prevailing winds blow from the north-west, stronger winds come from the opposite direction, which can expose the roots of young plants, and at other times bury the plants completely. In such arid conditions the soils are often encrusted with gypsum and limestone, and the shifting dunes have frequently proven too active for widespread afforestation. Water supplies are limited, and the quality of the water leaves much to be desired.

While others have claimed to make the desert bloom, none have faced the harsh climatic conditions existing in the United Arab Emirates.

The task is formidable, but science and technology is providing new opportunities for mankind to conquer nature. Intensive research and modern methods are overcoming the herculean problems which have defeated man over the centuries.

The determined efforts being made to plant as much of the land as possible with trees and bushes is paying good dividends. Over 1,700 acres have been planted along the Abu Dhabi-Al Ain highway, and consideration is now being given to similar projects in other selected areas.

The reasons for afforestation are far from purely aesthetic. The more trees, the less soil erosion and the greater protection from dust storms.

Acacia and Eucalyptus are two of the types of trees that seem to thrive best in the soil and available water conditions, although a total of 14 varieties have been chosen as the basis for the distribution of many hundreds of thousands of seedlings suitable for planned local planting.

Irrigation and careful conservation of the limited water supplies go hand-in-hand. It is feasible to create large expanses of greenery where water is available and the soil suitable. However, ground water supplies are scarce, and must be used with great regard to their conservation.

After consideration, priority has been given to the 'trickle irrigation' system, which works on the principle of delivering water to the foot of each tree through a totally enclosed system which can be controlled to give from 2 to 10 litres per hour.

The system has the advantages of preserving the original ground surface and vegetation, as well as making a substantial saving on water used by overcoming problems of evaporation losses, and reducing the problems created by salt concentration.

Throughout the United Arab Emirates projects are being established to ensure a locally produced food supply for the country's citizens, and with the expectation of establishing a healthy export trade in agricultural produce to the Arab world, and perhaps to European markets.

Ras Al-Khaimah has long been the prime agricultural producing area of the UAE, with rainfall reaching just eight inches in an exceptional year. Today, Ras Al-Khaimah is leading the field in intensive agrarian research. The Agricultural Trials Station at Digdagga is one of the most advanced study units in the UAE, with a total of almost 400 acres of land under intensive experimental cultivation. From humble beginnings in 1955, Digdagga has progressed to a model complex, with its agricultural school acting as a training centre for students from all over the Arab world, as well as from the UAE.



UAE President, His Highness Sheikh Zayed, whose personal interest in afforestation of his country has provided the momentum behind the ambitious projects now in progress.

The original dilemmas of crop selection have been virtually resolved. Animal fodder is provided by the cultivation of alfalfa, producing anything up to a dozen crops a year and up to 70 tons per acre.

Produce now ranges from luxury strawberries to the basic raddish. Notable successes include summer and winter cabbages, cauliflowers, tomatoes, turnips, cucumbers, onions, marrows, aubergines, and many other vegetables. Oranges and lemons thrive, as do grapes, bananas, pawpaws, dates, figs and plantains.

At Mileiha a 300 acres development unit has been established as a model of modern irrigation methods. Scientific but practical, its network of canals serve as a pattern of water husbandry, teaching the local farmer how to eke out his

precious supplies, especially during the inhospitable summer months.

Abu Dhabi's Al-Ain agricultural centre is another important link in the chain of experimental farms and research centres in the UAE. Established in 1967, over 200 acres are used for intensive empirical farming, while the scheme has made an impressive contribution to the battle to roll back the desert. Over 1,200 acres have come within the boundaries of the project, with related village developments.

Dubai's experimental farm at Raways opened last autumn. It is designed to attract local Bedouin away from pastoral to settled farming.

Abu Dhabi's Liwa oasis, almost entirely devoted to date-growing, offers potential for vegetables and fruit when the new highway to Habshan is completed, opening up the much needed communications route for marketing.

One of the UAE's most ambitious projects is on the island of Sadiyat, off the coast of Abu Dhabi, where the Abu Dhabi Arid Lands Research Centre (ADALRC) began producing high quality vegetables in 1972. One year later its plastic covered greenhouses had maintained an average production of almost one ton a day from a total of five acres under cover.

Today, half the acreage of the island is covered by 48 air-supported semi-circle cylinders of plastic.

These are devoted to low-growing crops such as cabbage, spinach, and beans. The remainder utilises steel-framed polythene-covered houses, for use with cucumbers and tomatoes which are trained vertically.

Power is supplied by three diesel engines; treated water fed by either overhead spraying, drip feeding or a network of plastic pipes provides the exact amount of nutrient charged liquid for maximum growth; growing temperatures are maintained by regulating the evaporative cooling system.

At Mazaid in the desert some 125 miles from the Abu Dhabi coastline work is about to start on the first commercial horticultural venture in the Gulf.

Fifteen acres of plastic globes will be laid down to provide a controlled environment from which three crops a year of salad vegetables and fruit can be raised.

The systems now being used at Mazaid and Sadiyat are simple, producing startling results, and even more startling potential for the agricultural future of the United Arab Emirates.

Yield in tons of some crops grown in controlled-environment greenhouses in Abu Dhabi compared with "good" field-grown yields of same vegetables in the United States.

Vegetable	Cultivar	Field-grown yield, UK, acre a crop	Sadiyat acre yield per crop	Sadiyat crops per year	Total yield acre/yr
Broccoli	Hybrid No. 5	4.2	12.0	3	36.0
Brussels Sprouts	Green Drop	3.0	4.5	4	18.0
Cabbage	Express Cross 80	12.5	23.0	3	69.0
Cauliflower	Peerless	12.0	70.0	3	210.0
Tomato	St-15	30.0	60.0	2	120.0



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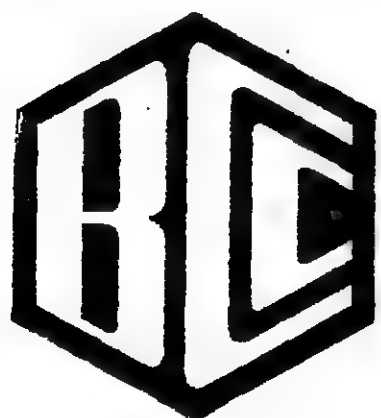
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On this and the facing page Ann Fyfe provides portraits of the seven members of the United Arab Emirates

Abu Dhabi: fast development but at a price

Abu Dhabi, the only major oil producer of the United Arab Emirates, uses its oil revenues to finance not only its own development but, to a large extent, the UAE budget—this year it will provide about 90 per cent of it.

After a spell of looking like a vast untidy building site, the temporary federal capital is beginning to take shape; the main avenues are complete and flowers and shrubs on the roundabouts have made an immense visual improvement despite the building, reinforcing roads and piles of cement still littering the many construction sites.

Development at this pace has not been without its social and logistical difficulties; the electricity supplies are overreached and the port was seriously congested by a time last winter. Shaikh Zayed is inevitably less accessible than he was and the bureaucrats from Cairo are having a field day. Hotel rooms are inadequate and hotel prices are even against the background of "imported" inflation are high by any standards.

But it all started with the discovery of oil: revenue from the first well, in 1966, brought in 14,000 m (14,500 m) in the first year and will bring in slightly less (which will none the less have to cover vastly increased expenditure) this year. Daily average onshore production rose by 15 per cent last year to 925,000 barrels from the three fields operated by Abu Dhabi Petroleum Company, which has a 40 per cent foreign stake. Offshore, on the other hand, output by Abu Dhabi Marine Areas, also with a foreign holding of about 40 per cent, declined by 9 per cent to 461,615 barrels from 507,000 in 1974. The exploration programmes are far from finished, however.

Under the terms of a 60 per cent to 40 per cent participation agreement reached last autumn, the companies are bound to buy back from the state oil company, in addition to their own 40 per cent, a further 40 per cent of total output, putting 80 per cent in all at their disposal. The original buy-back rate of 94.8 per cent of posted price has been lowered several times since the agreement was made and, during the recent oil glut, was further reduced by the removal of the low-sulphur premium. ADNOC, the state oil company, encountered difficulties in marketing its own 20 per cent of output but has now reformed its credit and other marketing policies and is hoping for more direct buyers.

At the time of the agreement, it was assumed that the state's participation would soon rise to 100 per cent, as the oil minister was demanding at the time. Recently, however, thinking has swung round to the retention of a foreign stake in the oil industry until the serious shortage of local managerial and technical skills has been overcome—a very long-term affair. Exchanges of recriminations characterized state-company relations for a while last

year, but both production and the general atmosphere are now getting back to normal.

Apart from downstream oil operations which means, in effect, the small refinery which starts operations on Umm al-Nar Island later this year, the recent acquisition of two large tankers and a joint-venture refinery in Pakistan, oil and industry officials are excited about the size of Abu Dhabi's gas reserves—larger than Algeria's and possibly the largest outside the Soviet Union. On Das Island, a 5400m, two million tons a year LNG plant is due for completion at the end of 1976 to process gas from the offshore fields for export to Japan, while work has started on the construction of LNG plants at each of the three onshore fields.

Two industrial estates planned

In Abu Dhabi itself, existing industries—really just the small LPG plant under construction on the island but on the mainland beyond the Maqra' Bridge. Two larger industrial estates are planned at Masafa near the major Maqra' crossroads to Dubai, at Al Ain and further away, at Jebel Dhanna on the coast, where ADNOC already has an export terminal. Jebel Dhanna will accommodate the larger industries, including the petrochemical plant which

will use ethane and methane, remaining after the petroleum gas liquefaction process and the fertilizer industry, which will eventually account for the onshore natural gas reserves. Plans for the petrochemical plant are expected to be announced as soon as the contract for the three onshore LNG plants is awarded.

Stress on existing utilities is already heavy and will have to be relieved, particularly by increasing the electricity generating capacity, before the new industrial areas can service their projects. Purchases of new equipment and extra recruitment have enabled the congestion at Port Zayed to be lifted and, of course, the expansion of the port continues. A new airport is to be built near Maqra' and the road and housing construction programme continues.

A small steel plant to produce steel bars is under construction as part of a joint venture with Pakistan and a cement plant is being built at Al Ain. In addition ADNOC and C. H. H. of Japan are building a PVC pipes factory in Abu Dhabi and industrial diversification can be expected to continue to concentrate on the construction materials sector. The production of foodstuffs is growing in importance, however, as the cost of imported food rises, and apart from a 200 tons a day flour mill under construction in Abu Dhabi, agricultural schemes at Al Ain and on Saadiyat Island, where scientists from Arizona University have been working with plastic mulch and added nutrients to produce fruit and vegetables for the local market, demand for them is growing.

Al Ain is, in fact, one of the nicest things about Abu Dhabi—less hot and less crowded than Abu Dhabi, the oasis straggles from the weekend vi from Abu Dhabi and I. The road to Al Ain has afforded and although town itself has been formed by low-cost schemes and road construction, a cluster of small villages—beyond, east through Surra into a territory, sport ruined fountains and ancient gardens, now in disrepair with polished people by herds of donkeys.

Shaikh Zayed fir popularity as Governor Al Ain—how the construction for those days surrounded in his vast Manhal Palace by imitable advisers and sex guards, carefully trained Europeans, to give their industrial know that security has not in riers but in access! The generality of shahk traditionally removed by other shahks excluded by the guards—that process in itself, less foreign and dire to society than is sudden imposition of a vane blanket security: ure designed for people in other stances.

Dubai: oil will not wrest entrepôt status

Not content with its position as the oldest-established city and commercial centre of the United Arab Emirates, Dubai is fast discarding such landmarks and areas of traditional architecture as remain. Even the Creek, which has long distinguished Dubai visually from its neighbours, is shrinking by the day under reclamation plans to make room for multi-storey car parks and a Sheraton hotel.

To the European eye the wind-towers and the Creek gave Dubai its charm; but to the planners on the ground, the conservation of the old is the same as prolonging a less affluent era. With the increase in wealth of the past two years or so, a slight shift of activity from the trading sector to construction is discernible, but basically the character of Dubai still derives from the large old-established merchant houses whose scions include men like Mahdi al-Tajer, the celebrated UAE ambassador to London, and Isa Gurg who was recently awarded the Danish Export Trade Prize by the Danish Foreign Minister—the first Gulf national to receive it.

Port Rashid retains its position at the centre of Dubai life—a position which will be reinforced by the huge trade centre now under construction in the port zone. Oil is thus a source of income and not the basis of Dubai's growth.

In its capacity as the financial capital of the UAE, Dubai has 28 banks operating, extending from the internationally known majors such as FIBA National Citibank and SBME to small, locally incorporated banks with assets of less than 100m dirhams. Abu Dhabi, by comparison, has only 16 banks. One of the aims of the two-year ban on new foreign banks, imposed by the UAE Currency Board earlier this year, was to give the local banks a chance to compete for business; and there is evidence that some of the main merchant houses not yet in banking are considering the move. Merchant banks, investment advisers and brokers are still fairly thin on the ground but their number is certain to grow this year.

In June 1974, the latest date for which statistics are available, banks in the Dubai sector had extended credit of 1,800m dirhams compared with 1,100m dirhams 12 months previously, of which 61 per cent was for trading activities and 13.4 per cent for construction. Compared with the position in December 1973, however, these figures indicate the beginning of a new trend: for at that time, trade accounted for nearly 67 per cent of all loans and construction for only 12.9 per cent.

None the less, Port Rashid serves all the northern emirates and handles some of Abu Dhabi's imports as well. Last year 2,500,000 tons of merchandise were handled—an increase of nearly a million on the year before. Imports doubled in value from 2,300m dirhams in 1973 to 4,800m dirhams in 1974, but in volume the increase was not of the same order—from 1,900 million kilograms to 2,900 million kilograms, and thereby hangs the tale that is on everyone's lips; imported inflation.

The cost of food went up cruelly last year and is a source of universal complaint, but the situation is little better in many other consumer goods and worse as far as housing is concerned, not only because of cost of building materials but also the pressure on existing accommodation by the new wave of companies opening offices.

One school of thought holds that consumption of transport equipment, machinery and consumer goods—the largest items in last year's import figures—is nearing saturation and that the 1975 figures will show nothing like the same rate of increase; if this is so, then more than one local merchant is left with substantial stocks on his hands. Others claim that building up stocks at this juncture and at current prices is sound commercial policy.

The price of a standard three-bedroomed flat has approximately doubled since the end of 1971 and Shaikh Rashid's new 200m dirham property development fund, by which citizens of limited means are encouraged to apply for loans at 1 per cent interest to develop their land commercially, is a measure of his concern at the situation.

Two areas of land, one in Dubai and one in Deira, have been earmarked for allocation to the beneficiaries under the scheme who are not landowners. This is the final blow for the conservationists; but the people who most want to see the end of the old houses are the people now living in them.

Man-made islands form tourist centre

Profound structural changes in Dubai's physiognomy will follow from the 33-storey trade centre, housing a 350-room hotel, conference centre and office-residential and leisure accommodation, now being built by Bernard Sunley at a cost of about \$60m. Designed by John R. Williams and sited by the port near the main highway to Abu Dhabi, the centre will wrest the commercial nub of Dubai away from Deira, where it now resides.

Another focal point—the familiar seaward end of the Creek with its rearing dunes, already giving way to car parks and hotels—is about to shift completely when work starts on a number of tourist projects at the unused inner reaches, near the country club. Here we shall shortly see two man-made islands housing sports arena, hotels, leisure and marine centres and so on.

Work continues on the \$91m dry dock, the Deira-Shindaghabh tunnel under the Creek, which is nearly complete, the new bridge and the extension of the port from its present 15 to a planned 47 berths. Regularly, there comes a time when observers stop and say: "That must be the end; there's nothing else to build." They said it when the port was commissioned, when the contract for the

dry dock was signed and, most recently, when the trade centre was announced.

Then, with unconcealed glee, Shaikh Rashid pulls another ace from his sleeve. Rumour has it that when this current phase is complete, an industrial decentralization move is planned, under which certain industries and facilities will move out of town to an industrial estate at Jebel Ali like the one planned for Jebel Dhanna in Abu Dhabi. Then there is a major new hospital in Deira on the drawing board, and so it goes on.

Oil exports, which began in 1969, are now hovering about 242,000 barrels a day from the two offshore fields now on stream: Fateh and South West Fateh. Dubai Petroleum Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Continental Oil, operates the fields on behalf of concession holders CFP and Hispanoil, with 25 per cent each; Deutsche Erdöl, a subsidiary of Texaco, with 19 per cent; Dubai Sum Oil and Delfree a subsidiary of Wintershall, with 5 per cent each; and DPC itself, which retains a 30 per cent interest.

Secondary recovery methods, gas lift and water injection, are being introduced in both fields and exploration and development continue both by DPC and by two other concerns to whom concessions were recently granted. Gas from the Fateh field will feed the \$120m liquefied petroleum gas plant under construction by Summingdale Oils of Canada.

The new plant will provide the local community with 80 million cubic feet a day of dry gas for domestic and commercial use. On top of this up to a million tons a year of natural gas liquids will be available for export.

Dubai hopes to make the best use possible of all the associated gas that is being wastedly flared off, simply because there is no way of using the fuel.

New power station

First supplies of gas will be fed into a new 50 megawatt power station and a half million ton a year cement plant, being built by Cosmin Gas. It would also provide the basic fuel for a joint venture steel mill plant, using imported sponge iron, under discussion with the Indian Government. There are also plans to use the gas as the feedstock for a urea plant.

Outside the oil sector industry is still largely confined in the private sector

to construction materials and components, with new plants for the production of building materials. Dubai is so far off than the other emirates that the rest of the Gulf that matter, having no restricted supply of local labour.

Mass immigration brought many workers into the area but the Dubais like Kuwaitis, Qataris and Dhawans in a minority their own cities, but it of it is of low calibre. A dozen abroad; the contractor building tower is has calculated that if gets the same product per engineer as he got the team who installed life in his last two buildings it will take years to install the new block.

Is Dubai saturated merchandise and profit. No, it is not, for its pot status is not going allowed to decline and the oil and industrial tors are in their infancy the merchants are stocked temporarily it crucial in Dubai the always something around the corner, like feasibility study for 150m/150,000 tons a aluminium smelter, carried out by E Smeiter Constructors Brestford.

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Sharjah: moving rapidly to modernize the town

joined the ranks of the emirates less than a year ago. Sharjah is moving at speed to modernize town, improve roads and attract new residents. As a result of the construction drive, the town is at present like a building site, but in the future it will be a modern city. In Sharjah's emirates, the east across the Hajar mountains, are oases and beaches.

One of the present occupations is the import of foodstuffs. The extent of the project is devoted to its location. The boom began with the export of oil in July from the offshore near Abu Musa Island by Crescent Petroleum consortium of companies led by Gas and Oil Products. The daily output is about 60,000 barrels and revenue is shared.

However, success in oil has been a 'out west' of the emirates by Crystal Oil, which has a concession for Hydro, and drill as due to start in the half of May. The east coast Reserve Oil is still at the of seismic testing. The use of minerals, including copper, is in the mountains, several mining companies are negotiating contracts.

number of schemes are and to support the transformation of the Port Khalid will seven berths when the two stages are completed and may be extended. The international air- which, like the port, designed by Sir William ow and, farmers, is an open area year. The Jumeira Hospital opens autumn. One of the radical changes will be about by the com- on of the metalled road is east coast, which has been accessible only a crack through the dunes.

Sharjah town the r, Sheikh Sultan bin Ahmad al-Qasbi, is ing to attract industrial ices or assembly or dis- tion concerns of proven- ess. Sharjah offers y cheap labour, freedom exation and freedom fore- exchange con-



Sharjah is at an early stage of an extensive programme of development.

as 12 international-class hotels. At present there are only the Sharjah Carlton and the Sheba, but work has started on others. A 130-room floating hotel, the Royal Marina, opens in the autumn. A landscaped area, to be called Garden City,

will provide villas and amenities for residents and tourists. Sharjah seems bent on becoming a tourist centre. Tourism in this part of the world tends to mean week- end jaunts, but Sharjah envisages parties of tourists

stopping in the emirate as part of a tour to Africa or the Far East, or using Sharjah as a base from which to visit the other emirates.

The impression of Sharjah is one of intense activity and mile upon mile of scaffolding. In the hot too

distant future there should be more provision for the tourist; there is already plenty to see and much scenic variety inland. For the businessman the develop- ment of Sharjah is at an early stage of an extensive programme.

man, Al Fujayrah, Ras al Khaymah, Umm al Qaywayn

Shared enthusiasm for building houses, roads and schools

its great diversity of ry and population, the non-industrial non-oil emirates have a on enthusiasm for the roads and schools built with federal cash. Al Khaymah, the most- is northernmost emir- is largely agricultural has a larger population the other three which depend on fishing. It has the oldest ruler, emir Shaikh Rashid, Al Fujayrah the young- London - educated Hamad. Finally there is Umm al Qaywayn. It is a semi-arid area with a social change is most

one of the main vehicles range are the women's ies - women in the shalghams do not reire behind the el leather burgas which are still the a larger Dubai and Abu which are dedicated a elimination of illiter- and to health and child- education. Tourism and ill increase the pace of the, and the prosperity will bring will help the migration of the ter generation to the in search of office jobs burgeoning ministries.

Al Khaymah, "the and with the tent", the of the four, with a

population of about 75,000, family will have a number of goats which graze without supervision and thus con- siderable of what they ought to and lots of what they should not. Much pro- cess is being made, how- ever. As well as seeds, ferti- lizers and insecticides are sold at half of cost and loans are arranged for the pur- chase of water pumps and modern equipment and there is an awareness of the poten- tial for any local food pro- duction in these expensive times.

The ancient date gardens, often neglected, conceal in- numerable ruined fortifica- tions and more than one archaeological significant cemetery. Until the early nineteenth century, when the British destroyed several forts and installations during the campaigns against pir- ates, Ras al Khaymah was the site of one of the major ports on the Gulf, historic Jufar, which had been in contin- uous use since ancient times. The British archaeologist Beatrice de Cardi came to the emirates in the late 1960s and described Ras al Khaymah's distinctive Jufar-ware pottery, which has a cream base with superimposed red linear designs and is avail- able plentifully on the many sites.

Shaikh Sagr is well aware of the tourist attractions of the emirate, both the his-

toric sites (he insists there is a castle called Zaba in the mountains where the Queen of Sheba lived) and the mountain scenery. Easy to reach by Tarmac road from Dubai, Ras al Khaymah has a casino and is planning to open a second international- class hotel.

Apart from tourism, how- ever, development of a 160m dirham (about £20m) eight- berth deep-water port and an international airport is under way. Ras al Khaymah has a 700-ton-a-day cement plant about to start operat- ing and a pipe-rolling plant belonging to McDermott, the oil industry suppliers in Dubai. A steel recycling fac- tory is about to open and a feasibility study is in hand for a fishmeal plant.

These industrial develop- ments are overshadowed by oil exploration programmes common to all four emirates. In Ras al Khaymah, Norsk Hydro and Vitol of Holland have finished seismic testing off and on shore respectively and the latter starts drilling this summer. In Umm al Qaywayn the United Refining Group, Canadian Superior, Kawane and Zapata, in Fujayrah Reserve Gas and Oil and in Ajman United Refining are explor-

Umm al Qaywayn (popu- lation about 6,000), Ajman

(about 25,000) and Al Fujay- rah (about 30,000) are basically fishing communi- ties and as such stand to benefit most from federal schemes to introduce central marketing for fish, the price of which is rising rapidly, and to arrange larger loans with the new UAE Develop- ment Bank for the purchase of modern boats.

Smaller loans and a com- bination of loan and grant are available from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the purchase of new engines and equip- ment, and ministry disburse- ments for these purposes are expected to exceed 10m dirhams this year. Similarly there are ministry plans for new jetties, ice factories and cold storage facilities, and eventually for a local can- ning industry.

Al Fujayrah, the only one of the seven emirates on the Indian Ocean coast beyond the Hajar Mountains, is the least changed of all. There are plans, however, for a port and airport and an hotel for the increased num- bers of tourists from the rest of the UAE who will want to visit Fujayrah when the road is completed this year. Many campers and day visitors already make the journey through the moun- tain tracks. The combination of the arrival of the Tarmac

road and the accession late last year of a young ruler, who succeeded on the death of his aged father, will mean many changes in Al Fujay- rah before long.

Umm al Qaywayn has a casino for tourists and is planning an hotel in its in- land oasis of Falaj al-Mualla. Its beaches are good and sail- ing enthusiasts base them- selves there. Ajman also has beaches, and in addition two inland territories with tour- ist potential, Manama, with its semi-bedu inhabitants, and Masfur, a mineral-rich enclave in the mountains. Masfur belonged to the Sul- tan of Oman until 1825, when he ceded it to the Emir of Ajman, the then dewan of the Gulf emirs, in return for the latter's help in a war.

Most of the inexplicable pockets of one shalgham deep inside another have similar histories. No doubt the official version is on record somewhere in the archives of the Foreign Of- fice, but the local emirs re- count how in the time of their grandfathers, an En- glishman "from the Govern- ment" went to each of the many tribes in the area, knocked on the tent-flap (metaphorically speaking) and asked: "Pardon me, but to whom do you owe your allegiance?" The wonder is that any maps at all were ever drawn.

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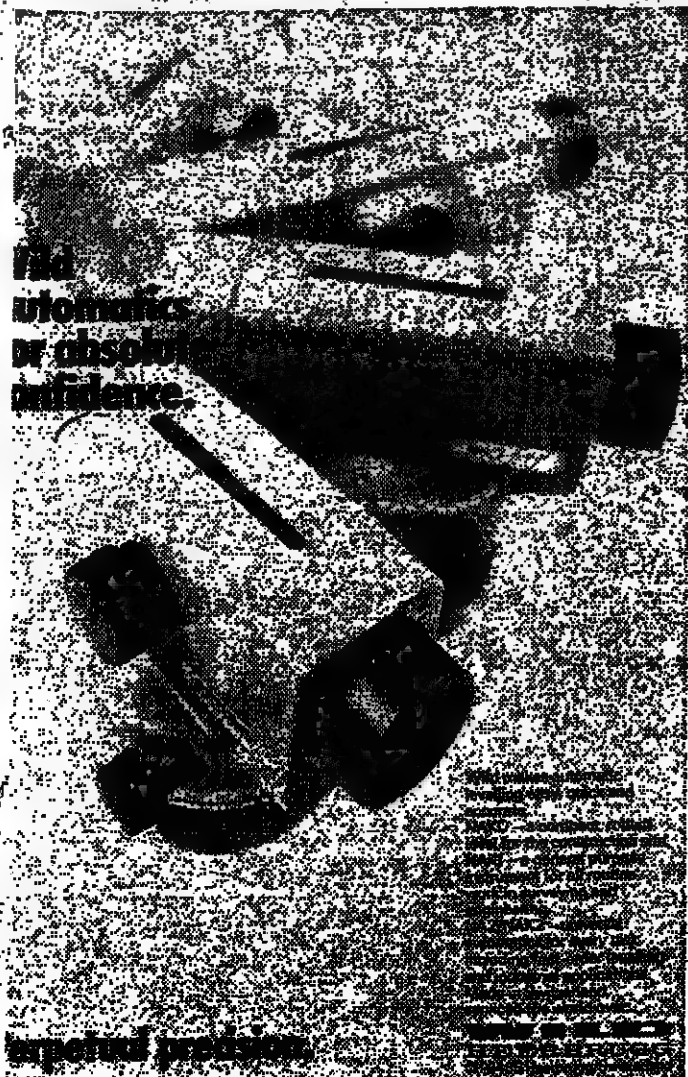
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Pause button.

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Focus

Research by Susan Morgan

General

The UAE federation was proclaimed as an independent state on December 2, 1971. It has seven members—Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Ras al Khaimah, Sharjah and Umm al Qaywayn which lie along the Trucial coast (formerly called the Pirate Coast). Ras al Khaimah joined in February 1972, encouraged by the seizure of two islands by Iran in November and the abortive coup d'état in neighbouring Sharjah, in January.

The federation was created to coordinate the economic development, defence and security policies of the former British-controlled Trucial States. It has a Supreme Council at its head, made up of the rulers of the seven states, and is governed by a president, currently Shaikh Zayed of Abu Dhabi, and a vice-president, Shaikh Rashid of Dubai. They appoint a Council of Ministers dealing mainly with drafting federal legislation and the federal budget. Draft legislation is submitted to a Federal National Council.

The UAE covers 30,000 miles, and is dominated by Abu Dhabi (26,000 miles), by far the largest and richest of the emirates. Dubai is 1,500 square miles. The population is concentrated in the rapidly growing coastal towns: 120,000 live in Abu Dhabi, about 100,000 in Dubai, 80,000 in Sharjah and 55,000 in Ras al Khaimah. The population of the three other emirates is estimated at fewer than 20,000, and the total population of the UAE is estimated at about 370,000.

In addition to the native population there are many workers from other Arab countries, Africa, India, Pakistan and Iran. The UAE became the eighteenth member of the Arab League on December 6, 1971. Three days later, it became the 132nd member of the United Nations.

Government revenue and expenditure (Bahraini dinars)

Year	Revenue	Expenditure	Transfer to, capital reserve	Surplus revenue
1968	55,442,686	59,335,030	—	(3,892,344)
1969	58,088,108	62,035,981	—	(3,947,873)
1970	65,608,790	72,008,022	—	(6,399,232)
1971	165,128,834	110,369,294	22,886,471	31,873,069
1972	218,080,129	173,563,623	37,178,606	7,337,900
1973	421,163,081	339,140,222	21,451,500	60,571,359

Figures in brackets signify deficits

In September, 1972, the UAE was admitted to the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). It has borders with Saudi Arabia, the Sultanate of Oman and the Qatar Peninsula. The coast is 630 kilometres long with coral reefs, shallow bays and sand flats, which make access difficult for large ships. Dubai has one of the few deep bays and its port is thus important for trade; Abu Dhabi and Sharjah also have ports, and one is under construction at Ras al Khaimah.

The UAE's army, the United Defence Force (UDF), was created in December, 1971. At the end of 1973 it numbered 9,850 men; on January 31, 1974, Abu Dhabi's Finance Minister announced that 32 aircraft, including 18 Mirage 3 jets, had been purchased at a cost of about £36m.

Annual programmes 1972-74, budget provisions (million dirhams)

Sectors	1972	1973	1974
Education	61.6	100.8	102.5
Health	18.4	42.6	92.8
Agriculture	19.0	26.6	32.4
Water	—	—	—
Electricity	216.7	159.0	299.2
Communication	157.2	145.0	189.3
Municipality	197.0	245.0	381.5
Housing	24.1	35.3	55.1
Labour and social affairs	2.6	3.2	6.3
Information and tourism	12.9	21.2	30.3
Public buildings	40.8	90.5	151.2
International loans	120.0	78.1	143.4
Total	870.1	945.3	1498.0

Source: Department of Planning

There are three offshore oilfields in Abu Dhabi—Bab which produced 40,200,000 barrels in 1973 from 22 wells; Asab, 1,500,000 barrels from 21 wells in 1973, and by far the largest, Bu Hasa—248m barrels in the same year. Bab and Bu Hasa have their own degassing stations from where crude is brought to the tanker terminal at Jebel Dhanna.

Three offshore fields are also operated by ADMA: Umm al Shaif, which had an average daily output of 202,167 barrels from 33 wells in 1973, Zakem with 305,116 a day the same year, and Al Bundat which is not yet in production. Abu Dhabi Oil Company (Japan) was granted a concession by ADMA.

Number of tankers loaded

Year	Abu Dhabi	Dubai	Sharjah	Umm al Qaywayn	Ras al Khaimah	Total
1962	—	—	—	—	—	22
1963	—	—	—	—	—	87
1964	168	—	—	—	—	249
1965	256	—	—	—	—	366
1966	276	—	—	—	—	411
1967	257	—	—	—	—	432
1968	302	—	—	—	—	519
1969	344	—	—	—	—	563
1970	395	—	—	—	—	649
1971	478	—	—	—	—	704
1972	472	—	—	—	—	734
1973	543	—	—	—	—	835

Includes five tankers for Abu Dhabi Oil Company. Source: Abu Dhabi Petroleum Company and Abu Dhabi Marine Areas.

first six months, 1974

Year	Abu Dhabi	Dubai	Sharjah	Umm al Qaywayn	Ras al Khaimah	Total
1974	325	156	6	—	—	487

to ship oil from the offshore fields (62,500,000 tons compared with 50,400,000 in 1972); production increased by 24 per cent in 1973 over 1972 by a further 8.8 per cent in 1974—an average of 15 per cent.

Dubai: Oil production 1973-85

Year	Barrels a day (millions)	Available for export (millions)	Take per barrel (US\$)	Oil export revenue (\$m)
1973	0.223	81	1.67	136
1974e	0.240	88	8.55	749
1975e	0.250	91	8.25	753
1976e	0.280	95	6.75	641
1977e	0.300	110	6.00	678
1985e	0.340	124	9.00	1,117

e: estimated

The United Arab Emirates has two criteria for giving aid: first the development of the Arab world and, secondly, the needs of the rest of the Third World. The UAE is known for its generosity in providing this aid, which in 1974 amounted to 15 per cent of the gross national product. Loans and aid of some \$700m were disbursed.

This year, despite economic difficulties largely because of severe cutbacks in output of crude oil, aid commitments are already estimated to have reached \$1.65m—35 per cent of GNP. It is possible that, given the less favourable economic situation (largely resolved now, because of self-imposed price cuts in crude oil) all of this target may not be met.

Efforts are being made to diversify the economic base and establish secondary industries, most of which are oil-based, to complement the export of crude oil with petrochemical and refined petroleum products. Such exports also offer some protection against fluctuations in the demand for and price of crude oil, from which Abu Dhabi suffered earlier this year. Not only are oil-based industries being set up throughout the emirates but a number of projects based on gas are also being developed.

Apart from these industries based on raw materials, the only other notable expansion is in the construction and cement industries, the former because of widespread public service projects and the latter because of plentiful raw materials. There are hopes of mineral-based industries, but most of the emirates have not been geologically surveyed.

Current projects include: an oil refinery in Abu Dhabi and the nationalisation of the petroleum distribution network. A \$50m oil refinery being built on an island near the town of

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1985e	0.340	124	9.00	1,117

e: estimated

There are two main channels for providing this aid—the Abu Dhabi fund for Arab Economic Development (ADFAED) formed primarily to extend aid to needy Arab countries and in particular to the "confrontation states" and which now widened scope to include aid to African and Asian countries with general development difficulties. The second channel is the General Assistance Appropriation Fund, which provides aid for those countries in urgent need of development funds and for disaster areas.

From this concept has grown the proposed Arab-African Fund administered by the Arab League with an initial capital of £165m to which the UAE contributes

1,400,000 barrels a day. Production dropped drastically at the beginning of 1975; January output was only 700,000 barrels a day compared with 1,200,000 barrels a day during the latter part of last year.

Subsequently, production has begun to rise again, mainly due to the 55 cents a barrel cut in the price of crude announced on March 1 (cancelling both the 40 cents a barrel premium for low sulphur content plus a levy for gravity of 15 cents). This has already had an effect and the level of production rose to 945,000 barrels a day for the first 18 days of March.

Dubai is the second major oil exporter and the Dubai Petroleum Company, a subsidiary of Continental Oil, is the sole producer. Its partners are Compagnie Française des Pétroles, Hispanoil, Deutsche Texaco, Dubai Sun Oil and Delfree. There are three storage tanks standing on the seabed, each with a storage capacity of 500,000 barrels and loading facilities direct on to the tankers.

Although production in 1974 was set back by a fire in late 1973, production still remained at 241,530 barrels a day. Production this year is expected to reach 300,000 barrels a day.

The UAE's oil industry is in a capital of more than \$50m, entirely subscribed by the UAE. It provides loans to companies, institutions and individuals and encourages the development of trade, agriculture and industry. The Abu Dhabi Investment Board is the medium through which investments are made in industrialised countries. The criterion for such investments is that they should provide a satisfactory return on capital. Other economic ventures consist of joint ventures whereby western technology may be harnessed with Arab money to the mutual benefit of both parties concerned.

Some recent aid projects include the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), which is to supply India with one million tons of crude oil for 1975 and oil for five years to come. The price is understood to be 93 per cent of the prevailing price (about \$10.95 for Arabian crude in 1974) and on easy credit terms. Most of the cost of the oil will be covered by a soft loan from the UAE.

The UAE granted Bangladesh a large new loan to help it overcome its economic difficulties. The loan is to provide \$50m on easy terms. In four separate instalments, starting this year, the UAE granted Tunisia a loan of \$4.2m, dirhams for various industrial and development projects. The purchase of Slater Walkers Securities' 20.7 per

cent holding in the building and engineering company of Richard Costello was made on December 18 by Mahdi al Rajet, UAE Ambassador to the United Kingdom. 5,142,373 shares were bought for \$4.16m. On March 6 Loure announced that it had acquired five million shares in the UAE and in return was issuing the UAE group five million Loure shares which have a market value of \$7.3m as well as \$375,000 in cash. In addition UAE interests were offered an option, open until June 2, to buy a further two million shares in Loure at £130 each as against their market price of £147. A prominent UAE businessman, Mohamed al-Fayed, who formed

part of the UAE delegations to join the board of Loure and Ric Costello. A majority holding in London Park Tower I has been reported to have been bought from finance firm of Capital Counties by the Abu Dhabi Investment Board. The share was said to cost for nearly 100 per cent of Park Tower's share and cost was reported as being about \$20m.

In addition Abu Dhabi bought a £36m part share in the London headquarters building of the British Commercial Union insurance and has held this up by helping to underwrite a £52m cashing rights issue by the company.

Geology and Geophysics Britain, a member of Hunting Group to carry a survey to ascertain the extent of the UAE's oil resources. The UAE is carrying out mineral surveys. The value of the contract according to Abu Dhabi press reports, is \$2m. Completion date is within months.

While the industrial programme is in no danger of suffering from a shortage of capital, there is an acute labour shortage and, there is as yet no national plan, there is some discussion of projects.

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Telecommunications

Huge strides have been made in the development and expansion of telecommunications systems in the Arab world and this is particularly true of the Arab Emirates.

In Abu Dhabi the minutes of international telephony have increased from 1,379,900 in 1973-74 to 3,712,300 in 1974-75—an increase of 169 per cent. There has been a 68 per cent increase in forwarded telex and a 30 per cent increase in public telegraphy.

In Dubai, because of its role as entrepreneur, increases in telecommunications have taken place on an

even larger scale. During the past 12 months of operation, forwarded international telephony increased from 3,848,100 to 8,444,100 minutes—a rise of 119 per cent and there was an increase of 76 per cent of forwarded telex traffic and 23 per cent in public telegraphy.

This rapid expansion has been possible as systems installed and engineered several years ago were designed to allow for rapid expansion. Expansion plans are continuing and Cable and Wireless, which provides the international outlets of the emirates as well

as possessing telephone interests in three states, estimates that \$32m will need to be spent on telecommunications in the emirates in the next five years.

At present there is no single overall telecommunications authority supplying the needs of all the emirates: the main company operating there is International Aeradio Ltd (IAL), originally formed to supply airline communication needs. It has a subsidiary, the Abu Dhabi Telegraph and Telephone Co which provides both internal, ex-

Inflation

Although the UAE has not yet appeared in United Nations statistics on the cost of living, it was estimated that inflation in Abu Dhabi last year was between 30 per cent and 50 per cent. It has been reported that food prices increased by 300 per cent last year. The problems Abu Dhabi has been facing, in common with other oil-exporting nations, include the rapidly rising prices of capital goods, the need to import substantial amounts of food and the severe labour shortage. Thus, in Dubai, a projected cement plant rose from the contracted price of £3m at the beginning of 1973 to £26m in August, 1974.

The prices of textiles and the accumulation of stocks, consumer goods also fell building material prices fell because of a glut on the market.

Cost of living index for lower income groups in Abu Dhabi (August 1972=100)

(August)		
Items	Base Index	Nov 1972
Food	82.5	84.7
Soft drink and tobacco	1.3	1.3
Housing and house services	3.4	3.4
Durable household goods	5.5	9
Clothing and footwear	6.2	5.3
Transport & vehicles	10.9	10.7
Miscellaneous goods	5.3	5.3
Medical expenses	0.3	0.5
Miscellaneous services	0.7	0.7
Total	100	102.2

Focus

Trade

has long been the main source of the Gulf's more than 85 per cent of its imports are from the United Kingdom. Up to last year, the United Kingdom was the main source of the Gulf's more than 85 per cent of its imports are from the United Kingdom. Up to last year, the United Kingdom was the main source of the Gulf's more than 85 per cent of its imports are from the United Kingdom.

Dubai's trade, 1972 and 1973 (millions of dirhams)

	Imports	Exports
	1972	1973
Machinery	249.80	400.30
Clothing	215.20	388.60
Household goods	274.10	345.70
Construction materials	153.00	326.40
Food products	198.80	282.80
Oil field materials	185.30	272.80
Electric appliances	84.30	121.30
Medicines and chemical products	66.80	98.30
Cosmetics	16.00	30.80
Wine and spirits	12.80	20.70
Office goods	14.90	12.40
Photographic articles	11.10	18.50
Arms and munitions	4.80	9.50
Total	1,474.40	2,340.70

Dubai's imports by country

	1972	1973
	Value (millions of dirhams)	Value (millions of dirhams)
Japan	1,678.56	1,528.8
USA	2,407.10	2,328.7
UK	3,376.88	3,280.8
Iran	4,164.75	7,817.75
W. Germany	5,154.4	8,353.8
Kuwait	6,125.8	11,583.20
China	7,121.7	8,811.8
Switzerland	8,112.9	4,104.2
India	9,111.5	7,776
Hongkong	10,108.04	5,98.7

Note: QDRs were changed to DHRs in mid-1973.

Summary of Dubai imports

	1974	1975
	Tons value (million dirhams)	Tons value (million dirhams)
January	121,708	257.2
February	105,944	219.8
March	342,948	339.1
April	114,506	316.8
May	145,848	331.1
June	440,693	495.4
July	124,407	374.8
August	112,270	416.1
September	421,199	496.5
Total	1,979,518	3,246.4

Source: Dubai External Trade Statistics (monthly bulletin), Statistics Office.

There are 39 banks operating in the UAE of which 11 are local and 28 foreign—giving a total of 247 branches. With a population of 370,000, the UAE thus has one of the highest bank population ratios in the world. There is as yet no central bank in the UAE; instead the Currency Board performs its functions and regulates the banking system. It aims to promote a sound banking system and its policy to this end has undergone a considerable change. Initially its attitude to licensing new banks was liberal, given the needs of a country expanding rapidly from an oil-based economy for a wide range of banking services.

After the oil boom, however, and the queue of banks subsequently eager to jump on the bandwagon, the Currency Board's policy became much more circumspect and now no more foreign commercial banks may open in the UAE for the next two years. This does not, however, apply to local banks with more than 80 per cent local share capital contribution.

Foreign commercial banks operating in the UAE include four British and four Iranian, two each from Canada, Lebanon, Pakistan, Switzerland and the United States and one from Bangladesh, Iraq, Jordan, India, Luxembourg and The Netherlands. The private commercial sector also includes three foreign commercial banks, branches of two foreign merchant banks and two locally incorporated finance companies in addition to foreign and national

Employment

of the UAE—370,000—there is a serious lack of a large indigenous labour force and so there has had to be much reliance on foreign labour to carry out the desired economic expansion. Although separate figures for immigrants do not exist in the emirates, it has been assumed that the difference between the 1968 census, which registered a total population of 180,000, and the 1973 figure of 320,000 is because of the immigration of foreign workers into the UAE. As lack of labour could seriously hold up economic development, there is a liberal immigration policy in force; entrepreneurs are allowed to bring labour from abroad to carry out projects; and in general every encouragement is given to encourage immigration to ease the growing pressures on the labour market.

Wages and salaries have been increasing fast in various parts of the UAE, an increase attributable both to increased cost of living and shortages in the labour market. In Dubai wages and salaries were increased three times—a total of 70 per cent between January 1973 and January 1974. On a comparative basis with other Gulf states wages in the UAE are somewhat unfavourable, largely because of the high influx of immigrants.

Banking

insurance companies. A unified banks association has been taken over from two independent bodies and to prevent too much inter-bank rivalry, certain conditions have been laid out prescribing the ceiling on interest rates on local currency and rates for local currency.

Bank credit to residents by economic activity (June 1974)

Activity	UAE total percentage	Abu Dhabi percentage of total loans	Dubai sector percentage of total loans
Agriculture	0.5	0.15	0.15
Mining and quarrying	0.4	0.05	0.05
Manufacture	2.4	2.67	1.54
Electricity gas and water	1.1	0.94	1.53
Construction	13.53	32.76	13.42
Trade	55.72	40.97	61.17
Transport and storage	1.81	3.87	1.05
Others	19.72	18.49	20.13
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Communications

Dubai—Port Rashid was completed in 1972, a year ahead of schedule; it has 15 deep-water berths. Further extensions are under way to extend the number of berths to 37 and eight more are planned. The enclosed area of the port is also to be extended; this will mean constructing five kilometres of new breakwaters, thus increasing the area by 300 hectares. In March this year an agreement was signed whereby further developments worth \$85m are to be undertaken.

The vast dry dock project due to be completed in 1977 will cost \$250m. It will be able to load tankers of up to a million tons as well as conventional ships.

Abu Dhabi—Port Zayed, which started operations in 1972, is to be further extended; 12 deep water berths will bring the number available to 18. This programme is to be finished in 1976 and will include storage sheds and additional warehousing facilities.

Sharjah—Three firms—Hochtief of West Germany, Archirodon of Greece and the international consortium Six Construct with headquarters in Brussels—are undertaking a joint venture with the Government of Sharjah to construct a deep water harbour with six berths at a cost of \$50m. Source: 'Abu Dhabi International Airport'

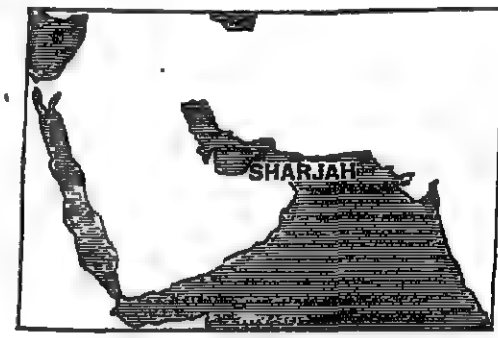
Currency in circulation

Period	Abu Dhabi	Gulf rupee	UAE	Equivalence in million dirhams
June 1966	41.3	41.3	41.3	18.8
May 1973	9.1	9.1	9.1	97.6
June 1974	3.8	3.8	3.8	162.4
Total	250.0	250.0	250.0	306.7
Dec 1973	306.7	306.7	306.7	387.0

Abu Dhabi air traffic

	1973	1974
	number of passengers	number of passengers
	in	in
January	8,523	7,823
February	7,000	8,116
March	7,405	7,429
April	7,577	7,825
May	7,280	7,454
June	7,887	10,504
July	9,007	10,891
August	9,750	9,078
September	12,021	8,843
October	7,583	8,815
November	9,514	7,894
December	7,936	9,324
Total	101,483	100,236

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Ten years activities in the Arabian Gulf. Projects accomplished and under construction: HARBOURS - CORNICHERS - BREAKWATERS FERTILIZER PLANTS - REFINERIES CEMENT FACTORIES In Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Ajman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman

Ann Fyfe looks at foreign trade and banking

Japan overtakes Britain as leading supplier

Only Abu Dhabi of the seven emirates is a principal oil-exporter; the economic basis of the rest is fishing, agriculture or commerce. Those industries already planned or in operation are largely oil or gas-based or subsidiary to the construction industry, but the upward surge of world food prices in 1973 and 1974 has kindled a much more serious awareness of the scarcity of home-produced food and an acceleration of measures for the modernization of agriculture and fishing.

Such plans, and indeed the whole range of infrastructural and social reform are heavily dependent on Abu Dhabi's oil revenue—as the UAE budget shows—but the effects of the last two months of last year and the first two months of 1975, when slumping demand for oil forced Abu Dhabi's output down to a third of its 1974 average, were felt not in the public works departments but in the private sector.

Record imports in 1974 left some of the agents with sizable stocks on their hands, but oil output is now back to normal and the new 1975 budget demonstrates that the downturn in activity was short-lived. This is not to say that last year's surplus revenue of \$1,500m

will be repeated: increased expenditure has brought the surplus down to an estimated \$51m this year. Federal budget expenditure in 1975 is estimated at 2,778.2m dirhams (£298.7m), an increase of 124 per cent on last year's budget estimate of 1,019.3m dirhams (£109.6m). Sharp increases in costs, particularly in imported construction materials and transport equipment have contributed substantially to the rise, however. Of the 2,778.2m dirhams to be spent, 2,000m dirhams is Abu Dhabi's contribution and a further 500m dirhams will come from Abu Dhabi's oil revenue as the cost of federal building carried out in Abu Dhabi emirate, leaving only 278m dirhams (£30m) or 10 per cent nominally due from the other emirates, mainly Dubai and Sharjah.

Imports reached a record 5,536m dirhams (£595m) in 1974, an increase of 65.6 per cent on the 1973 figure of 3,355m dirhams (£361m). Volume was 3,310,000 tons, which, although no comparable figure exists for UAE in 1973, is widely felt to represent an increase of more than 65.6 per cent and may not represent any increase at all. Again, it is cost inflation which forced the import

figures up. Japan became the UAE's top supplier in 1974, overtaking Britain, while the United States and West Germany remained in third and fourth places respectively as in 1973. Italy, however, jumped into fifth place with a 234 per cent increase in exports to the UAE.

Transport equipment and machinery, the largest single item in the import league, accounted for imports worth 1,524m dirhams (£164m) or 27.5 per cent of the total, double in value on the 1973 figure when transport equipment represented 20 per cent of total imports and added up to 728m dirhams (£78m) in value. Japan came top of the list of suppliers of this category of goods in 1974, supplying one-third of the total, followed by the United States and Britain. Manufactured goods took the second largest slice of all imports, some 25 per cent, followed by foodstuffs and oilfield equipment. Pharmaceutical imports and tobacco and beverages recorded huge increases of 166 per cent and 185 per cent respectively in 1974, the role of personal consumption in the economy, which can only grow as the population grows younger—about 40 per cent are under 15 years

of age—better educated as a result of the schools programmes, better housed and more exposed to overseas living habits.

It is felt in some quarters that consumption in both capital and consumer goods is reaching or has reached saturation point and that the 1975 import figures will show nothing like the same rate of increase.

Large quantities of heavy transport equipment and machinery are sucked in by construction activities, which remain dominant in the UAE's domestic sector after oil, downstream oil operations (notably the Umm-al-Nar refinery) and the several gas utilization projects in hand. Demand for building materials is reflected in the fact that four large cement plants are under construction in the UAE—one each in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah and Ras al Khaimah, and in a number of further projects in this sector under discussion.

Iron of Japan is to build a 3,000 ton a year PVC pipes factory in Abu Dhabi, where a small steel bars plant is also to be built in conjunction with a steel plant and where Kawasaki Japan is planning to build a blast furnace for iron production. Similarly, Dubai is discussing with India a

joint venture steel billets plant. Apart from construction related products, the main industrial project on the horizon at the time of writing is the 150,000 tons a year aluminium smelter to be built at Dubai's Jebel Ali by British Smelter Construction under an agreement signed at the beginning of May.

Two fundamental gaps have to be filled before industrialization becomes a reality for the UAE: manpower and the agricultural basis to support it. Free education, with cash incentives, is now available for all as are scholarships abroad; but graduates of UAE nationality are necessarily snapped up by the private sector. Immigration from the Indian sub-continent and Iran provides unskilled labour, but managerial ranks are still filled to a large extent by European and North American expatriates. The solution to this problem is time, but the manpower crisis is immediate.

As far as agriculture is concerned, however, it is not a question of saving from scratch. Palm cultivation is, or rather was, common in the Liwa and along the foot of the Najjar mountains, and abundant water has made al-Ain, in Abu

Ban on foreigners to give locals a chance

Before the ban imposed earlier this year on the opening of new foreign commercial banks, the United Arab Emirates had fewer than 300,000, some 39 banks opened or licensed to open with a total of more than 240 branches. The surplus oil revenues which have constituted the main source of funds for the UAE since 1974, but have been thinned out by a combination of reduced oil output and cost inflation of 58m in 1975. The ban on the construction of new banks should produce a shift of emphasis in 1975 in favour of local banks and non-commercial banking activities; both sectors having been arguably under-represented in the past.

Non-commercial banking and finance concerns have been somewhat slower in finding their way to the UAE. Merchant banking consists of Wardleys and Oryx Investments, which was set up by Arbutnot Latham with several local partners, in addition to which Gulf Citicredit and Middle East Finance are operating as finance companies. Brokers and investment advisers are represented by Merrill Lynch, Gillet, Brothers Discount House, W. I. Carr and a company called Emirates Brokers, which is being set up by James Capels. Plans for a local stock exchange, however, seem not to have gone beyond the talking stage. Finance on easy terms for private sector development schemes is now available from the UAE Development Bank, which is just starting to function.

Fishermen, farmers and smaller land-owners seeking to increase their assets will be the principal beneficiaries.

Of an estimated federal budget expenditure of 2,778m dirhams (£298.7m) in the 1975 financial year, some 90 per cent or 2,500m dirhams is derived from Abu Dhabi. Alterations about the provision of the remaining 10 per cent, due theoretically in the main from the UAE's two other oil exporters, Dubai and Sharjah, enlivened the pre-estimation debate last year against a general background of federal teething problems, but the figure of 2,778m dirhams is an increase of 124 per cent over last year's 1,019.3m dirhams. Abu Dhabi's own budget, however, merits greater attention in view of its astonishing foreign aid figure.

Thus expenditure on foreign aid will equal expenditure on development projects, itself the single largest item in the budget and surely a unique state of affairs. Apart from the states confronting Israel, the poorer Arab League countries of North Yemen, Somalia and Mauritania and other Islamic nations, notably Pakistan, head the list of beneficiaries.

Spending on foreign aid under this chapter, however, is not inclusive of disbursements by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development, whose own capital was quadrupled from \$125m to \$500m last year and whose outstanding beneficiaries include Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Bahrain, Yemen, Arab Republic (North Yemen), Mauritania and Somalia.

When the fund's capital was quadrupled, however, its terms of reference were also widened to embrace not only other Arab but also African, Asian and Islamic countries and to include technical skills as well as cash among its assets. A two-tier interest rate structure was then developed, differentiating between infrastructural and commercial projects.

Beyond the fund itself Abu Dhabi subscribes to numerous aid schemes for the developing countries, floats bond issues (including a 300m dirhams bond for the World Bank) and makes exceptional payments for disaster relief, most recently to Chad and Bangladesh. Committing a figure of the magnitude of 3,500m dirhams to foreign aid in a year when surplus revenue has shrunk to one-third of last year's surplus is thus to be read as a clear policy statement to the effect that Abu Dhabi's role as financier to the developing world is not going to be allowed to lapse.

When the surplus revenue reached its peak of \$1,500m in 1974, the theory behind its management was that 50 per cent should be placed in a fixed-interest, gilt-edged stock and government bonds and the remaining 50 per cent in equities and property. Fluctuations under the latter heading were made by the Abu Dhabi Investment Board, which meets monthly in London, through Morgan, Guaranty, Robert Fleming and the Bank of India-China, which looked after North America,

Thus Dubai continues to invest heavily in trade, however, in the case of Dubai loans absorbed by commerce in June, 1974, was down slightly from the 68.8 per cent absorbed by that sector in December, 1973. While only 41 per cent of loans advanced in Abu Dhabi were for trade. Conversely, construction accounted for 32.8 per cent of credit advanced in Abu Dhabi at the same date compared with 13.4 per cent in Dubai, although credit for building in Dubai seems to be increasing slowly; in December, 1973, only 12.9 per cent of the loans were for construction.

In the absence of a central bank, regulatory functions in the banking sector are carried out by the UAE Currency Board, which only fixes the interest payable on deposits. Interest on lending is left to find its own level in the market place and there are no cash reserve or liquidity regulations in force at present. Two main policy decisions have been taken by the board so far in 1975—to ban new foreign banks and to retain the present parity of the dirham despite the Saudi Arabian revaluation and the breaking by several other Persian Gulf states of the links between their currencies and the United States dollar. This was dropped in favour of the International Monetary Fund's special drawing rights.

The ban on foreign banks aims primarily at giving locally incorporated banks a chance to compete for business against the internationals—and here is some evidence of greater interest in banking activities on the part of some of the principal local merchants. The ban—while the decision not to revalue was made in the light of measures already in force, including wage indexing, to compensate the working population for rises

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Aviation industry could become best in world

Reed pondent

Commercial air traffic of the world is growing at an average rate of 10 per cent a year. The United Arab Emirates, with its strategic location in the Gulf, is well placed to become a major aviation hub. The Emirates Air, whose fleet of Boeing 747s and Boeing 737s transported a million passengers in 1974—a jump of 100 per cent over the previous year—has a fleet of 10 aircraft. The airline is now expanding its fleet and is expected to have 20 aircraft by 1980. The Emirates Air is a joint venture between the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. The airline is now expanding its fleet and is expected to have 20 aircraft by 1980. The Emirates Air is a joint venture between the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. The airline is now expanding its fleet and is expected to have 20 aircraft by 1980.



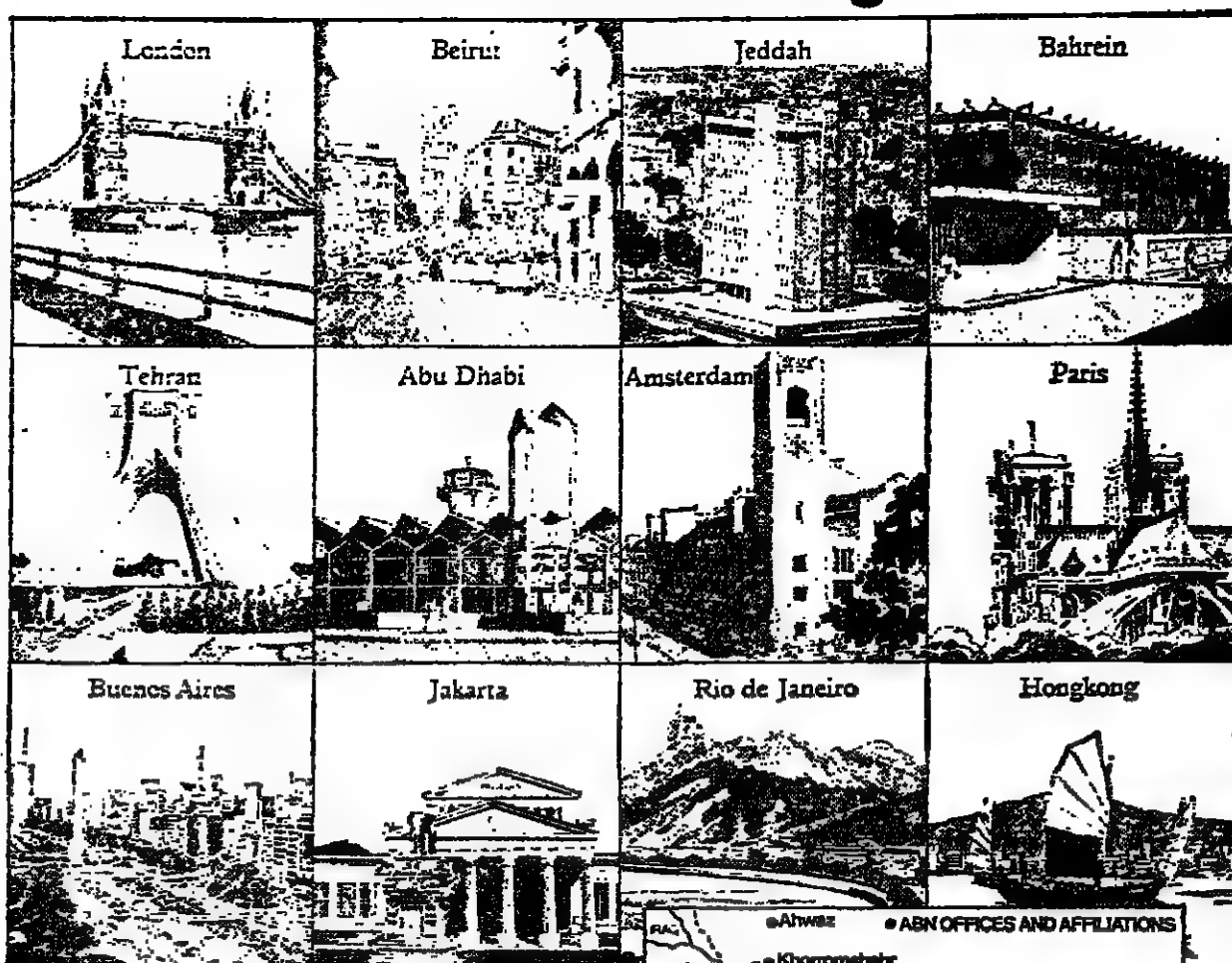
The control tower at Dubai international airport, a design which won international acclaim when it was opened in 1971.

from oil are ensuring that the UAE and the other countries in the Gulf can afford the best in aerospace equipment with the result that aviation services in the area generally could become among the most efficient in the world.

What the Gulf lacks in its headlong expansion is the technical and operational knowledge, but as the fore-going indicates, the rulers in the area are sensibly prepared to draw heavily on the resources of both Europe and the United States against the day when their own subjects are fully trained to take over.

This trend may be seen at work in Gulf Air, which became totally owned by the United Arab Emirates in 1974. The airline, which was founded in 1968, has a fleet of 10 aircraft and is now expanding its fleet and is expected to have 20 aircraft by 1980. The Emirates Air is a joint venture between the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. The airline is now expanding its fleet and is expected to have 20 aircraft by 1980.

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New plans for Port Rashid

by Tim Owen

Sharjah, used to be the main port on the southern coast of the Persian Gulf, but its importance declined during the years of the depression before the Second World War and its creek silted up. Its role was taken over by Dubai, 10 miles westward along the coast, which lies on a much larger deep water creek.

Since that time the importance of Dubai as the principal port on the coast has steadily increased, both for its own commercial activities and its entrepot trade. Until very recently Dubai was the entrepot port for places as far away as Muscat. Now, as other ports have been constructed in the area its entrepot role has declined, but its own rapidly expanding commercial trade has more than made up for this loss, and it has in no way impeded the increasing prosperity of Dubai.

Until recently the creek at Dubai provided facilities for the traditional dhows and coasters which used the port, but now increasing numbers of ocean-going ships are using the port of Dubai, for which the creek has neither the depth nor the facilities. The discovery of offshore oil in Dubai, and the increase of imports arising from its exploitation, resulted in the decision to build Port Rashid, which was completed ahead of schedule in October 1972.

This port, costing £24m, constructed outside the creek by Costain Engineering, has a 15 deep water berth, and is planned to be extended to provide 45 berths. George Wimpey of Britain has won a contract to build another wharf 5,400ft long, in a joint venture with a local company.

The latest venture is the construction of a dock to be completed by the end of 1977 alongside Port Rashid. Plans to proceed with this have now been confirmed.

The dry dock will accommodate a million ton tanker as well as two 500,000 ton tankers and smaller ships. Reclaimed land built up from the sediments of the creek and the harbour entrance will provide the space for support facilities, engineering workshops and storage warehouses. There will be a wharf connecting the dry dock to the port, and a two and a half mile breakwater to protect both the port and the dry dock. In February Sheikh Rashid, Emir of Dubai, signed an agreement worth an estimated \$35m with the multinational concern, Pacific Associated, a consortium of Japanese, Australian, British and United States interests, for the development of a Dubai harbour.

Until recently Abu Dhabi had no port at all. Every-thing was offloaded into Khor Fakkan, already the lighters from cargo ships natural harbour for a driv-

ing local fishing industry, is being developed as a modern port for a major fish exporting industry with all the services that go with it. Khor Fakkan also has a position of considerable strategic significance in the area.

to protect the harbour from the strong north-westerly winds, the shamsal, a two-mile breakwater has been constructed with stone quarried in Ras al Kaymah. A study is being conducted into the expansion of the port to provide a further water berth eight ships deep, a slipway, marine workshops and transit sheds, as well as a basin for dhows and other small craft. Long-range planning is geared to providing 21 deep-water berths.

Sharjah, whose creek silted up many years ago, has a four-year project for the development of its new port, Mina Khalid. Work is proceeding on the construction of a 2,000-metre main breakwater and a 1,000-metre lee breakwater, and a new entrance to the creek, together with a new basin, will involve building a new 1,000-metre sea wall, two more breakwaters and allied service buildings. This comprises the first stage of the port plan, which envisages a second stage bringing a total of six deep-water berths.

At the north eastern end of the UAE lies Ras al Kaymah with its natural harbour, which was once the principal lair of the pirates of 1977 alongside Port Rashid. Plans to proceed with this have now been confirmed.

A port and breakwater have been completed near Ras al Kaymah town. Plans exist for building a new port at Khor Khawair, from where the stone for the construction of the new port of Abu Dhabi was exported. A 1,600ft jetty was built there to accommodate the ships loading the stone.

Ajman and Umm al Qaywayn, both lying at the head of shallow creeks on the southern shores of the Gulf, are to be developed as fishing ports with all the necessary services for a fishing industry. On the had no port at all. Every-thing was offloaded into Khor Fakkan, already the lighters from cargo ships natural harbour for a driv-

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Sharjah, the first stage of construction of the port was carried out by Tarmac, involving a dredging and harbour deepening operation and the construction of a wharf and harbour buildings. In addition, Tarmac are engaged in the surfacing of roads, airport runways and the building of power stations throughout the Gulf. Such is the management experience,

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Building roads across a patchwork quilt

by Tim Owen

As recently as 10 years ago there were almost no paved roads in what is now the United Arab Emirates, not even in the towns. When the federation was formed in 1971 it was appreciated that a major road network was essential for the political and economic survival and development of the state, and high priority was given to the planning and construction of this road system. The results four years later are impressive.

The planners of the road system faced two main difficulties, one political and the other geographical. A peculiarity of the emirates is that five of the seven are fragmented; a political map looks like a patchwork quilt. Sharjah, for example, has one section of its territory with its capital on the shores of the Persian Gulf, while the other with the major fishing port of Khor Fakkan lies on the shores of the Gulf of Oman, separated from each other by the territory of other emirates as well as the high and rugged Hajar mountains.

Geographically the difficulties lie in the Hajar mountains, 5,000 or more feet high, which stretch from the tip of the Musandam Peninsula in the north into Oman; in the salt flats or Sabkhat as they are called locally, which lie along the shores of the Arabian Gulf, and which are impassable after heavy winter rains; and in the enormous sand dunes of the south which rise to 500 ft or more.

One of the first major roads completed was from Al Ain in the Buraimi Oasis to Abu Dhabi town on the coast. It is a four-lane dual carriageway now lined with trees, constructed for most of its length through the dune country, which reaches Abu Dhabi island across the spectacular, 1,400 ft by 85 ft four-carriageway Al Mughra bridge.

The paved coastal road which links the six emirates and is already dual carriageway along certain stretches, is to be converted to four-lane dual carriageway for its entire length.

Another major project approaching completion, and one which presents the greatest construction difficulties is the road across

the Hajar mountains to the Gulf of Oman to link the isolated emirate of Fujairah and the port of Khor Fakkan with the rest of the UAE. It will link up with the road system of Oman. It is estimated that a heavy commercial vehicle will be able to complete the journey from Calais to Fujairah in less than three weeks.

The first stage of their road from Al Dhayd, which lies inland from the Gulf coast to Masafi in the western foothills of the Hajar mountains is due to be completed by the end of this year. The second stage from Masafi over the mountains to Fujairah will be in use nine months later.

Probably the most significant highway in the international sense is at present under construction. It will link the UAE coastal network with the trans-Arabian highway at Al Sila on the Qatar border. The construction of the road faced both political and topographical difficulties. Saudi Arabia has long sought an outlet to the southern Gulf to the east of the Qatar Peninsula in an area through which the highway would have to pass.

Five Pumas and five Alouettes. Both squadrons of Mirages were bought in 1965, and the British Harrier.

Next, but by far the biggest and most formidable, are Shaikh Zayed's own armed forces, the Abu Dhabi Defence Force (ADDF), which has its own air force and navy. First formed in 1965, it was greatly expanded by Shaikh Zayed when he came to power the following year.

This has 10 Hunters and 14 Mirages with a second squadron of 16 to 18 Mirages to be added within a year. The pilots are largely Palestinians, Jordanians, Palestinians and Britons. The air wing also has four Islanders, four Caribous,

Sharjah, too, has its National Guard while further up the coast Ras al Khaymah has its own Mobile Force. Each of these units has its own command structure, and procures its own weaponry.

For some time Shaikh Zayed of Abu Dhabi, the federation president, has urged the merger of all these units, including immigration control staffs. At a meeting last month of the Supreme Council, which consists of the seven rulers, it was decided in principle to do just this.

A panel of experts from neighbouring Arab countries has been appointed to advise on this merger, and they will report within two months.

The immediate effect of such a merger would be for the Abu Dhabi Defence Force (strength about 12,000 to 15,000 men) to swamp the others. For the next biggest unit is the United Arab Emirates (about 3,000 men) followed by the Dubai Defence Force (2,000 men).

Integration, if it is achieved, will mean a substantial surrender by the individual rulers to the federal ideal. For under the provisional constitution they were granted the right to maintain their own armed forces.

Of the present situation, Shaikh Mohammed, the Minister of Defence, tells visitors: "Never mind the different badges, we are all here to defend this country. Should there be any external threat to the UAE then all these forces will come under this ministry. Ultimately we are all United Arab Forces."

Who is the federation likely to have to defend itself against, in view of the growing détente in the Persian Gulf? In August an old border dispute between Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia was settled, while relations with the new military giant, Iran, across the Gulf have greatly improved.

The insurgents' threat to neighbouring Oman seems to be weakening, and there are reports that their backers, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, may withdraw their support in exchange for much needed aid from the UAE. Without such support they are far less of a threat to the United Arab Emirates.

Finally, there is the American threat to seize oil wells if, in another Middle East war, the oil states were to cut off supplies. Obviously the federation's tiny forces could do no more than fight a delaying action while the country's oil rigs were destroyed, if it ever came to this.

Integration of armies will mean 'surrender'

by Peter Hopkirk

For so small a nation the United Arab Emirates would appear to support an abnormally large number of armies. Between them on any future battlefield the seven emirates could field four different armies, three air forces and a navy, admittedly most of these tiny.

First, but by no means foremost, comes the federation's official armed forces, known as the United Arab Emirates Defence Force (UAEDF). Formed at independence from the old Trucial Oman Scouts of British days, they are the responsibility of Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid, the federation defence minister and son of Dubai's ruler. The land element is known

as the Union Defence Force, and it also has its own tiny air wing, the Union Air Force. The whole force has an annual budget of £15m.

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The telephone exchange in a modern Abu Dhabi hotel.

British success contradicts commercial folklore

British businessmen are continually berated for always losing out when in competition with Japanese thrust, German thoroughness or American enterprise.

One hears continually of lost contracts, cancelled orders, unmet deadlines, unavailable spares and other British failures. In fact a sort of folklore has built up around this.

Rarely does one hear of the success stories of British firms overseas. Yet in the United Arab Emirates, and particularly in Dubai, leading British contracting firms, sometimes working in temporary partnership, are carrying off some of the most valuable contracts ever signed. They are doing this, moreover, in face of fierce competition from Japan, Germany, America and Italy.

The firms, which for long have been household names in the Middle East, include Costain, Lalng, Taylor Woodrow, Halcrow and Wimpey.

One of the biggest projects under way in the federation is the £90m dry-dock complex in Dubai which is being built as a joint venture by Costain and Taylor Woodrow, with Halcrow Middle East as the consultants. To finance the project, Lazard Bros of London has arranged two loans, one of £55m supported by the British Export Credit Guarantee Department.

The management contract for operation of the dock, moreover, is expected to go to Gray Mackenzie and Co.

which is carrying out a feasibility study.

Halcrow Middle East is the consultant to another large Dubai project, the £65m, 20-berth extension to Port Rashid. The original harbour and its extension to 15 berths was the work of Costain. Two of the three tenders for the new contract are British.

Another big Dubai contract which has just been won by a British company is for a £150m aluminium factory. Shaikh Rashid, the ruler, signed the deal with British Smelter Constructors last month. The plant will have a capacity of 120,000 tons annually when the final stage is completed in four years.

A cement plant, costing £26m, is being built in Dubai by Costain with Halcrow and a Swiss firm as joint consultants. Costain, which first moved into the emirates 15 years ago to build airports, expect to complete it in 15 years.

The huge new Dubai International Trade Exhibition Centre, costing £58m, is a British enterprise, with Bernard Sunley as the contractor, and John Harris as the architect. This will include conference facilities for 3,500 people, a 300-bed room hotel, an ice-skating rink and other sports facilities.

Other contracts in Dubai which have gone to British firms include building the new corniche and reclamation of land in Dubai Deira—total cost £7.2m—with Halcrow as consultants and Costain as contractors. They also have the contract for building the £8m tunnel under the creek which is due to be finished by December. Halcrow are to design and supervise the building of a large number of flats, houses, offices and shops in Deira, which eventually will cost about £35m.

In Sharjah, Halcrow is the consultant for the new port development. This will cost £25m and consist of a deepwater harbour initially with six berths and a new creek entrance. Halcrow is also the consultant for the new international airport on the Sharjah-Dubai road whose runway and terminal building will cost £10m, as well as for Ras al Khaymah's new international airport, designed to take jumbo jets, and costing about £5m.

These are merely some of the many contracts, large and small, being won by British companies in the seven emirates, as well as an indication of the astronomical sums being spent on development in this region. The reputation enjoyed by these companies will almost certainly ensure that British builders and engineers will continue to be used in turning this former Arabian backwater into one of the most prosperous and materially advanced nations anywhere.

The problem was recently resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned. To the west of Abu Dhabi the road has to pass through a vast area of salt flats, which present considerable construction problems. Nevertheless, in spite of the difficulties the road is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Apart from these main highways, which Shaikh Zayed, the President of the UAE, sees as essential for the economic development of the country, and equally important for the fostering of political unity of its peoples and tribes, there are numerous spur roads linking the main routes with the interior. These are particularly important for the farming communities in Ras al Khaymah and the fishing communities which live along the coasts of the Gulf of Oman.

No less important are the communications systems within the main towns. Abu Dhabi town, a modern city, entirely a product of the last decade, has attached considerable importance to road and street planning, with the result that a four-

lane dual-carriageway corniche extends the length of the waterfront, while a similar highway connects the town with the international airport and the Al Mughra bridge, which connects Abu Dhabi with al Ain and the interior. Within the city there is a fine network of dual carriageway roads.

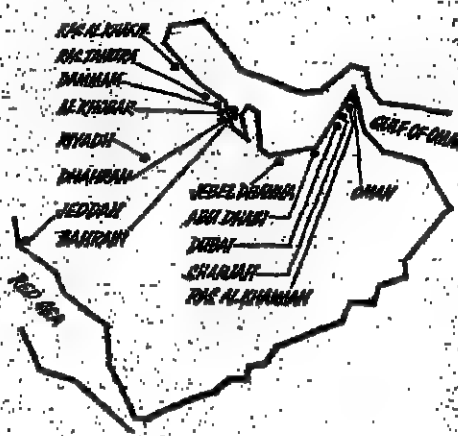
Dubai, lying on both sides of a 12-mile creek, has special communications difficulties. In the past it relied on small rowing boats for transport from one side to the other. Some years ago a road bridge was constructed over the creek, above the road bridge, a tunnel has been constructed under the creek to ease the pressure on the road bridge. A second bridge has also been built and a third is in the planning stage.

Sarjan, 10 miles east of Dubai along the coast, was originally the most important port on the southern coast of the Gulf, but stagnated in the middle of this century, when the creek silted up. With the recent discovery of oil in Sharjah its prosperity is rapidly returning. The town is growing fast and new roads are a feature of the port.

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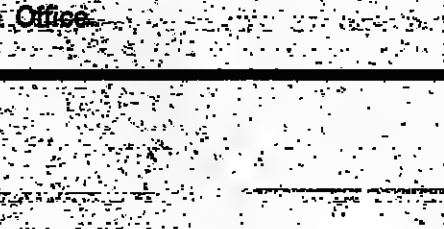
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Search for minerals to cut spending on imports

by P. W. Harben
Assistant editor,
Industrial Minerals

With their recently acquired oil wealth many of the countries in the Persian Gulf area have undertaken huge investment programmes, which have included construction projects on a large scale. In the United Arab Emirates the important tasks of planning and building a good road system, as well as houses, schools and hospitals, are now well under way. These schemes inevitably require vast amounts of building materials—cement, building stone, pipes, glass, tiles and sanitary ware, almost all of which have to be imported at enormous expense.

This development of the UAE as a main importer has put great strain on its port facilities, which are now being hastily expanded. The imported building materials are mostly common rocks and minerals requiring only crude processing and may well exist locally. It would seem logical, therefore, to attempt to locate and exploit any such domestic resources.

With this view in mind, the Federal Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources engaged the British company Hunting Geology & Geophysics, to assess the mineral potential of all states in the UAE except Abu Dhabi. Their survey (costing £200,000) will cover the 11,500 square kilometres concerned by April 1976. In order to outline target areas for base metals and at the same time locate sources of industrial minerals which can then be examined in greater detail with a view to establishing local industries. There are three cement plants in various stages of completion in the UAE—in Ras al Khaymah, Sharjah, and Dubai.

The only other mineral-based industrial site, apart from quarries in dolomite limestone used merely as fill material, is a small tile and ornamental stone factory. The integrated exploration programme devised for the UAE by Hunting began with a complete study of existing data. This included an examination of photographs from the Landsat earth resources satellite which enabled the specialists to study microstructures on the earth which are often overlooked at ground level.

Modern copper finds have also been reported in neigh-

bouring Oman. It appears that there were ancient workings both of ochre in the offshore salt plugs and of copper on the mainland. There are reports of chrome, asbestos, and talc—particularly in the Oman Mountains in the east, as well as rumours of manganese and uranium and the possibility of gypsum, clay and special silica sands.

The next stage will be to photograph the whole area from the air, using both true colour and panchromatic film. In the west, where the terrain is mainly covered with sand, the photography is intended to delineate the areas of rock outcrop which could be used as building materials. In the east where rock exposure is almost 100 per cent and there is little or no vegetation or sand cover, the photographs will be used to modify and amplify existing geological data and to detect evidence of mineralization by colour changes.

This aerial photography will be followed up by a programme of airborne geophysics using magnetometry and gamma-ray spectrometry to examine the structure and subsurface geology, particularly in the desert region where few rocks are exposed.

Helicopters aid survey

The data provided by all these techniques will assist the specialists in delineating the areas of potential mineral interest. The promising areas will be examined in greater detail on the ground, chiefly using geochemical, soil and rock sampling. These techniques will measure the level of selected elements, including almost certainly copper, nickel, chrome, lead and arsenic, which is an indicator element since it is invariably associated with gold mineralization and is much easier to detect than gold itself.

Much of the sampling will be assisted by the use of helicopters in the otherwise inaccessible mountainous areas. The field work is scheduled to be finished by the end of this year, and the overall interpretations and reports should be completed by next April or May.

All this, however, is only a preliminary phase, in a process of exploration, intended to form the basis of more detailed feasibility studies which ultimately could lead to the establishment of mines, processing facilities and eventually local industries. The discovery of industrial minerals as opposed to metallic deposits would offer a much more immediate opportunity for industrialization since much less processing is required.

Moreover, the minerals could either supply an existing consumption point, such as a construction site or a centre of population, or using material brought from outcrop which could be used as building materials. In the east where rock exposure is almost 100 per cent and there is little or no vegetation or sand cover, the photographs will be used to modify and amplify existing geological data and to detect evidence of mineralization by colour changes.

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If workable deposits of either metallic or industrial minerals are found, one of the main advantages will be a saving in foreign exchange. The UAE imported \$1,600m worth of goods in 1974, including a large proportion of bulky, primary materials carrying a high freight element. Apart from the foreign exchange cost of the imported goods, the danger of over-dependence on imports was highlighted last winter when rumours of an imminent cement shortage caused panic buying, high prices and the present large stocks.

The Government of the Federation, although eager to exploit any of the emirates' natural resources other than oil, accepts that it will be dependent on foreign technological skills for many years. It is particularly eager to use domestic resources, as the resulting industry and employment would free the UAE from its almost total dependence on the oil revenue which stimulated the growth and made the winning of other raw materials a necessity.

Visions of trees and crops among the miles of sand

by Tim Owen

A cursory glance at the map of the United Arab Emirates would suggest that the potentialities for agriculture were negligible. A hot arid summer climate combined with thousands of square miles of sand desert and saltings and a complete lack of rivers and lakes would support this assessment. The UAE is fortunate in having as its President Sheikh Zayed of Abu Dhabi, who is in no way daunted by these obstacles, and nurses a vision of turning the landscape green so far as is possible with trees and crops.

There are four regions within the UAE where natural conditions exist for agriculture. The largest of these is the emirate of Ras al Khaymah, which lies at the eastern end of the Trucial Coast, under the western slopes of the Hajar mountains. This area not only receives the maximum rainfall (it all falls in the winter) of up to 50 in a good year, but derives benefit from the run-off from the Hajar mountains. Where the borders of the UAE and the Sultanate of Oman meet, 125 miles south of Ras al Khaymah, is the Buraimi Oasis, a group of 12 oases spread over an area of 50 sq miles, nine of which are in the UAE.

Water is derived from falaj, artificial underground channels of fresh water led from sources in the foothills of the mountains and wells. Across the Hajar mountains there is limited agriculture in the wadis and narrow coastal plain bordering on the Gulf of Oman. Flooding, deep in the south among the towering sand dunes are the Liwa Oases, scattered over a large area, which consist almost entirely of date gardens, irrigated by well water.

Ras al Khaymah has always depended on agriculture as the main part of its economy, particularly since the demise of piracy early in the last century and the pearling industry in this century. But it is only since 1955, when an Agricultural Trials Centre was opened at Diddagga, inland from Ras al Khaymah town, that technology and specialization have been used to increase the agricultural productivity of the region. Tremendous progress has been made in the ensuing years both in the training of farmers and in crop selection.

The human problem has been considerable as existing farmers steeped in traditional methods have had to be educated in the new



A tender moment in the Dubai cattle market

ways, while nomadic tribesmen have had to be persuaded to settle on the land. As is normally the case, it is with the growing generation that the greatest success has been achieved. The centre at Diddagga, with almost 400 acres under intense experimental cultivation, has an agricultural school with both day and boarding facilities. Practising farmers are encouraged to attend evening classes. After a three-year course students return to their own areas to form a nucleus of trained personnel to stimulate local development.

In experimenting with crop selection the temptation to develop the various corn crops and rice, which are land hungry, has been resisted. The cultivation of alfalfa, which crops heavily and is traditional to the area as animal fodder, is encouraged. It produces up to a dozen crops a year and yields up to 70 tons an acre. In the winter all the temperate climate vegetables thrive, as well as aubergines, peppers and tomatoes better suited to warmer climates. Citrus fruits, paw paws, grapes, dates and figs all flourish.

As Mifkha there is a 300-acre development unit, which has been carefully designed to teach modern irrigation methods, and water husbandry. Eventually it will be divided up among local farmers.

Livestock farming is not neglected, and a large herd of Friesian cattle bred from British stock form the basis

of a breeding programme. Undoubtedly the most spectacular agricultural achievement in the UAE is the Abu Dhabi Arid Lands Research Centre on Sa'idiya Island, adjacent to Abu Dhabi Island, which was established in 1971. Vegetables are grown in greenhouses, which are cooled instead of heated. This scheme was designed and operated by experts from the University of Arizona.

Abu Dhabi has its own agricultural centre at al-Ain in the Buraimi Oasis. This was established in 1967 and forms a link in the chain of experimental farms in the UAE. More than 200 acres are given to intensive cultivation and research. Already 1,200 acres have been brought under cultivation in the form of local farmers, who receive regular monetary grants, and free water, in the desert sand are drip irrigation plants, irrigated surplus produce.

Basic to an advanced version of the old desert cooler method of drawing air by fans through running water, is used for cooling the plants. The plants, growing in the desert sand, are drip irrigated with water from a distillation plant, impregnated

with the nutrients. By this method, tables, free of disease pests, can be grown the most intensive results are starting to appear. A total of five acres cover almost a ton of tables are obtained. Tomatoes grow to the size of large apples, an yield per acre is double that of a United States field for tomatoes, treble broccoli and sixfold cucumbers. Two crops an acre can be annually.

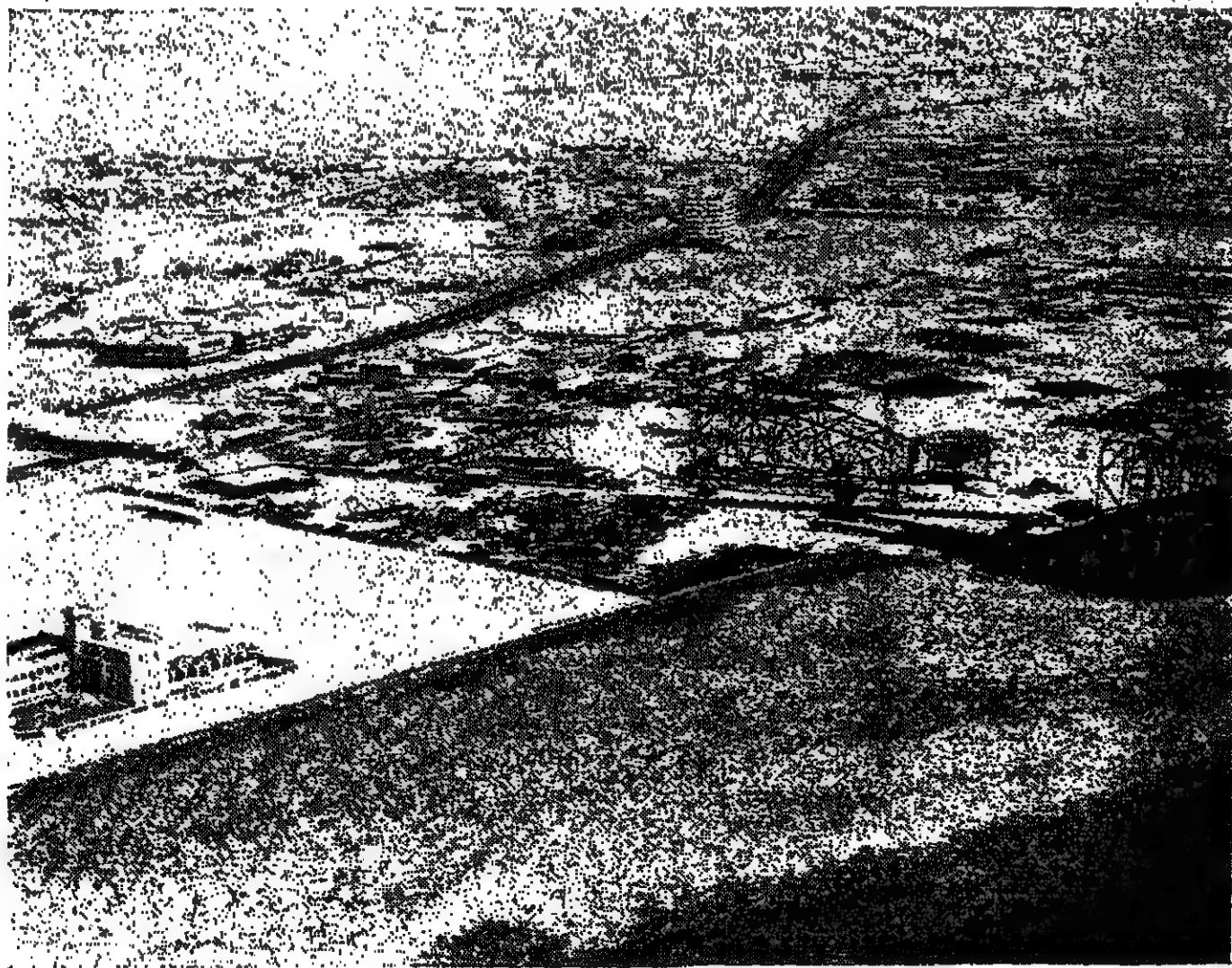
In November, another experimental was opened in Dubai kilometers square, designed to attract Bedouin to settled life. Water is brought in by line and potential fish who are given 400 sq plots are supplied with the equipment and requirements for fish. They are also aided marketing of their produce.

Unlike agriculture, both for fish and for has formed part of a Bedouin livelihood, a proportion of the ranks of the UAE, in whom were living also. The Japanese turned pearl industry killed the pearling in the Persian Gulf in the Second World War.

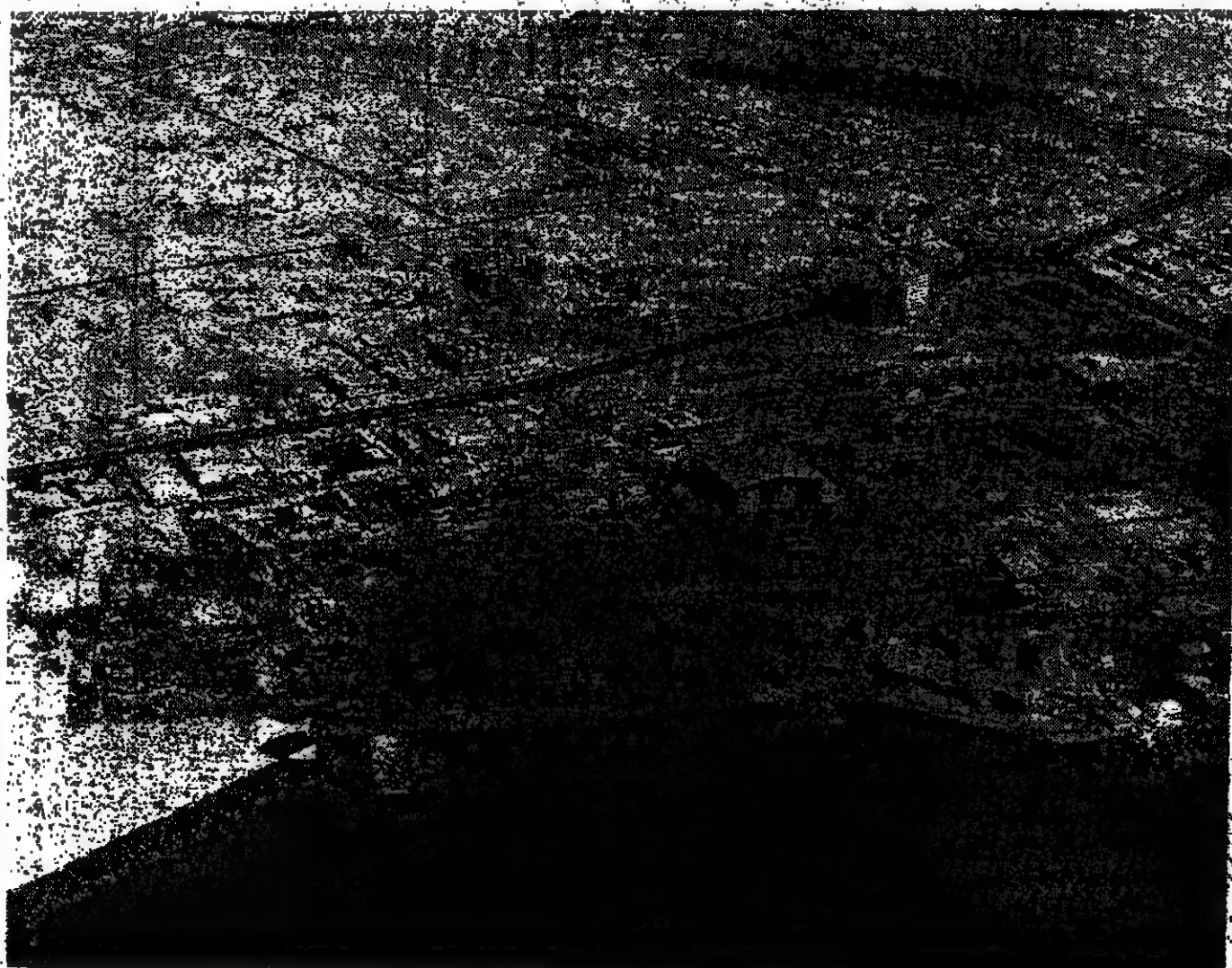
The coastal waters UAE, particularly in Gulf of Oman, are rich fish, though greatly exploited. Until the 1950s fishing has been limited to local hereditary fishermen. Traditional methods, a sting to meet the demands of a strictly local market.

The federal Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has embarked on a five-year plan for the development of a modern fishery. Existing fishers have to be modernized, equipped with rafts, pumps and other equipment to meet the requirements of a fishing industry. A fishing industry, a ports constructed. The Gulf is intended to be the fishing industry of the future. In the Gulf of C where fishing prospects best, the port of Khoran in Sharjah, always a fishing port, has all been equipped and is used as the centre for expanding fishing industry, which aims to export surplus produce.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer (History)

to teach Strategic Studies/History to young naval officers. The work involves conducting seminars and tutorials, and some lecturing to larger groups.

Candidates (men and women) must have a relevant degree with 1st or 2nd class honours and a knowledge of contemporary international affairs. Interest in naval history will be an advantage.

SALARY: as Senior Lecturer £4,195-£5,780 or as Lecturer £2,440-£3,525. Level of appointment and starting salary according to age, qualifications and experience. Promotion prospects. Non-contributory pension scheme. Accommodation available for single man.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 10 July, 1975) to Civil Service Commission, Alton Link, Basingstoke, Hants. RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 83551 (answering service operates outside office hours) or London 01-839 1992 (24-hour answering service). Please quote ref. 01/9042.

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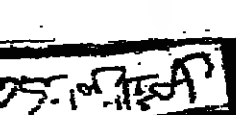
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Should the Silkin Diaries be banned?

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MISCONCEIVED BILL

Accepting the Opposition's proposal to sit three days a week of two, the Government at least ensured that the nitrate stage of the County Land Bill may be completed without any more extensive long sittings, far too long proper examination of a sure so complex and important. The diminution of fatigue brings some relief from agony to the sessions, but it is not that it will not make the session any less severe in minutes scrutiny of the Bill, months since it was published have only reinforced the impression that it is a portable, unnecessary and serious. Misgivings have been expressed by more and more of those who would be concerned putting it into effect, and some politically predisposed to favour it.

The impulse which gave the high priority in the Government's programme, and which led to the ill-starred Labour amendments of 1947 and 1957, is that it is not particularly consensual. It is to ensure that high value the community to certain plots of land, though its planning law should be mainly not to the lucky victim who happens to own land, but to the community. If this is fair, so long as it is taken of the fact that employment will not take place there is at least some benefit in it for the owner of the land. But it is an object that already been brought about the device of the development tax, proposed by a Conservative administration and acted by a Labour one. The largely irrelevant image the land professor gives the popular appeal as it is. But the most radical aspect is much more controversial, as to the land itself, and in more so to the means. The position is that planning authorities are not able to give a positive influence, they say yes or no to what developers propose, but they do not initiate any great tent, to further their vision.

THE RIGHTS OF A SOCIALIST EDITOR

Liberty of the press, a historic quest of April 25, was buried in 1940, and a number of years and provocations, reported by an officer of the 1st, Senior Dias Ferreira, said a statement issued yesterday by the Socialist Journalists of the Lisbon newspaper, *República*.

The statement maintains the high drama on which Socialists have conducted the republic dispute ever since. The newspaper was first closed on 19 after being occupied by own printers. It is none less interesting that those used of burying press freedom are no longer the Communist Party (or at any rate not solely) but unnamed "adventurers and provocateurs", plus icon, the internal security, whose authority is now organized all over Portugal, and which most of the credit goes for the remarkable lack of bloodshed that has so far characterized the Portuguese situation.

That Copcon should have taken side of the printers is at first a surprising development. Commander General Otelo Alva de Carvalho is well known for his antipathy to all political parties including the Communist Party. Why then would he, until now presented by Socialists and understood in West as a Communist take of a Socialist newspaper? This is simply a case of an individual Communist officer on his own initiative, probably not, for it now seems that the *República* dispute is less of a direct clash between Communist and Socialist than was at first thought.

Person in the stocks

Mr Stephen Schick
I was concerned to see in the issue of *The Times* (June 17) a photograph of the Reverend John Low, appeals director of the Council for the Disabled, being taken in the stocks with eggs at his feet. I understand that at this time people will be charged for owing eggs at Mr. Fellow and proceeds will go to his charity. I am sure that the intention of this exercise, is to make a very small and a very small medieval punishment should be revived to induce people to give money to such a worthy cause and that a Minister of the Church should subject himself to such treatment. Yours faithfully, STEPHEN SCHICK, 17, The Street, SW3.

theatre museum

Mr Sheridan Morley
In the recently published issue of *Art Council* magazine, it is stated that minor theatricals should have been over-looked recently by those possessing the epic proportions of the RSC and the National. But the debate which raged in these columns some

months ago over the future of the British Theatre Museum, whether inside or outside Somerset House should not be altogether forgotten, especially as a solution has since been offered.

Granted that, as Sir John Jenkins was so eloquently stated, Somerset House can be put to better use, is there any reason why the theatre museum should not now be located in the one place to which it logically belongs, a theatre? The Playhouse on the embankment below Hungerford Bridge is now being offered for rental by the GLC, and although still too small perhaps to be viable as a live theatre, it would be superb as the museum, in any doubt should have a look (as I did last week) at the best theatre museum in the world, that situated on the stage of the old Court Theatre in Copenhagen. Yours, SHERIDAN MORLEY, 17, Gallatin House, Waltham St Lawrence, Kent.

Ordination of women

From the Reverend Jeffrey Wilcox and Mrs Wilcox
Sir, Following the standing committee's recommendation to General Synod that no further action be taken at present regarding the ordination of women to the priesthood, will it be able satisfactorily to exchange the role of controller of development for that of monopoly developer? At present it too often seems insufficiently equipped to carry out even those limited functions in that line that already fall to it. Land acquired by councils is on the whole not put to use very promptly. When it is used, the results are often as deficient in quality and grace as any other. The most important initiative councils can take in the planning process is the preparation of structure and local plans for their areas: even this has so far proved beyond the capacity of some.

The Bill will bear particularly heavily on some groups. It still seems that the Government have not acknowledged the need of churches and charities for special treatment. The power to realize the development value of churches or halls in cities has made possible many worthwhile ventures, and has been the only means by which some organizations have survived. Farmers whose fields are earmarked for housing perhaps a decade hence are likely to be hampered in working the land, whether they part with it voluntarily or upon compulsion. The diminished scope for appeals against councils who use compulsory powers to assemble their land banks is one of the most objectionable features of the Bill, especially when the White Paper's guarantees that owner-occupiers would not suffer seem to have been written out of it.

There is much common ground between the parties over land. A more limited measure would have won very wide acceptance, and thus have taken its place on the statute book with a fair chance of staying there. Betwixt net powers for councils to buy land, and encouragement to councils to be more active in land assembly in the interests of the community could all have found a place in it. The Community Land Bill, if it becomes law, can look forward to no such longevity.

national of women to the priesthood, at least two points need to be made. 1. The figures from Diocesan Synods show that technically (or following the rules of the synodical government game) only 15 dioceses favoured the removing of legal barriers; but in the Durham Diocese, which is one of the other 28, the proposition was defeated in the House of Clergy by a majority of 2; and the voting figures in the House of Laity were 57 in favour and 20 against the proposition. If this voting pattern was repeated in the other 27 dioceses, and your report of June 13 points out that in 5 dioceses it was only the Bishop who prevented the proposition from being carried, then on a head count perhaps the support for the ordination of women to the priesthood is more substantial than the standing committee wishes us to recognize.

2. If on all crucial matters relating to conscience Parliament waited for "the necessary overwhelming support", we suggest that we would still have capital punishment, and there would be no Abortion Act. Presumably, if the Church of England had its way the Sex Discrimination Bill would never reach the statute book. Yours sincerely, JEFFREY WILCOX, CLAIRE WILCOX, St Luke's Vicarage, Pallion, Sunderland. June 14.

Paintings in St Paul's

From Mr J. S. M. Scott
Sir, I wonder if I alone regret the removal of the two large G. E. Watts paintings in the nave of St Paul's. According to the Surveyor to the Fabric of the Cathedral most people have been glad they have been taken down. Beneath one is written: Whosoever thy hand findeth to do it with thy might, For there is no work nor device, nor knowledge nor wisdom in the grave, Whithersoever thou goest.

the traditions of local involvement are different in the two sectors. In theory the universities are autonomous bodies which need not respond to national needs. In practice the letters of guidance from the UGC are a stronger incentive to work within a national framework than can be provided by the detailed but uncoordinated control of other institutions by local authorities. Indeed universities have been discouraged from starting degree courses in some subjects, for example law, because of an expected surplus of graduates where other institutions have suffered no such restraints.

One of the strengths of the polytechnics, you wrote, is their distinction from universities. Certainly if the newest polytechnic is compared with the pre-war Oxbridge which so many speakers take as their prototype, there is a great difference. But contemporary higher education in Britain follows a continuous spectrum, there are differences between individual universities and between individual polytechnics that are just as great as the supposed differences between the two species.

Can we not therefore now accept that every single institution is distinct with its own individual strengths and stop trying to perpetuate an artificial class warfare which will cause the same damage in academia as it does elsewhere? Yours faithfully, S. L. BRAGG, Kington Lane, Uxbridge, Middlesex. June 12.

Commonwealth secretariat

From Lord Garner
Sir, In an otherwise admirable article on Mr Arnold Smith in the *Times* of June 13, my old friend Roy Lewis made the astonishing statement that the FO "which had previously run the machine" were affronted by the proposal of a Commonwealth secretariat, and that "had the officials had their way, the Commonwealth would be dead now".

The facts are that senior officials in the Cabinet office and in the Commonwealth Relations Office (the matter had nothing to do with the FO) in the circumstances of 1964, the task of providing the secretariat for meetings of Prime Ministers an increasingly invidious one and would not have wished it to continue. From the outset therefore they favoured the setting-up of a Commonwealth secretariat. Prime ministers remitted the proposal for study by officials. As the leader of the team of British officials I sought and received instructions from ministers to welcome the proposal; this I did in the opening statement made to the committee.

Yours, etc, GARNER, House of Lords. June 17.

Hawksmoor's masterpiece

From Mrs Elizabeth Young
Sir, The Bishop of Stepney cannot have written his letter (June 16) about Christchurch, Spitalfields, yet further to discourage those he sees as already "so alienated" from the Church and from "the truth of the Gospel" that he will be its effect. The Bishop recognizes that the social work going on in the crypt of Christchurch is "a living witness to the compassion of Christ". Can he not also recognize that Christchurch, as a great and amazing building, is equally living witness to the glory of God? Does he really not know about great genius, and great religious art—Michelangelo's, Bach's, Donne's?

Hawksmoor's church is no more a national monument to the work of a great architect than the work of the Spitalfields Crypt Trust with its "vagrant alcoholics" is a monument to the admirable rector who initiated it. Both stand witness to "the truth of the Gospel" but in different ways.

The implication in the Bishop's letter that "social witness" is the Church's only proper function and should have a monopoly of the Church's concern, is a form of phillistine puritanism that rejects, and is in turn rejected by, many people who certainly are not "alienated from the truth of the Gospel". Praise and celebration are also a Christian duty, and for that witness we often find ourselves depending on past achievements.

The Church must recognize that the works of genius it has inherited—buildings, monuments, treasures, language—today speak loud and clear to many people, about celebration louder and clearer than do our usually dismayed contemporaries. Instead of pulling down the churches, selling off the pious gifts, and adopting for the Liturgy the language of local authority by-laws,

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Sir, I wonder if I alone regret the removal of the two large G. E. Watts paintings in the nave of St Paul's. According to the Surveyor to the Fabric of the Cathedral most people have been glad they have been taken down. Beneath one is written: Whosoever thy hand findeth to do it with thy might, For there is no work nor device, nor knowledge nor wisdom in the grave, Whithersoever thou goest.

In these most difficult times this is a grand and worthy exhortation; I deeply hope these paintings will be replaced as an inspiration to us all. Yours faithfully, J. S. M. SCOTT, West Penthouse, 125 Park Road, NW8. June 11.

Establishing a fair electoral system

From Mr Oliver Weaver
Sir, A fair electoral system in which the first preference of electors is proportionately represented in Parliament could be achieved as follows:

Assuming a Parliament of 700 members:

- (1) The country is divided into (say) 500 constituencies and 500 members are elected as at present;
- (2) The remaining 200 members comprise such of the defeated candidates of any given party polling the highest percentage of votes cast in their relative constituency as is necessary to enable each party's overall proportion of the aggregate number of the 700 members of Parliament to correspond, as nearly as possible, with its percentage of the overall national poll.

Thus, to take a simple example:

Party	Overall vote	Constituency members	Additional members
Lab	42	234	240
Cons	38	226	210
Lib	20	140	30

The additional Labour members comprise the 54 defeated Labour candidates polling the highest proportion of the votes cast in their respective constituencies. Similarly in the case of the Conservatives and Liberals.

The advantages of such a system are:

- (i) It achieves proportionate representation and gives an equal value to every vote cast;
- (ii) It retains the constituency system;
- (iii) It is simple and avoids multiple voting.

All members of Parliament are elected.

The system is far from perfect but it is, in my view, worthy of serious consideration.

Yours faithfully, OLIVER WEAVER, 2, Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

From Mr Grenville Janner, QC, Labour MP for Leicester, West
Sir, The abolition of the single member constituency would destroy the most important element of our democracy. The top priority of an MP is to the public, to the protection of individual liberties against infringements upon their freedom, dignity or rights.

Most backbenchers are relatively powerless at Westminster—but they are notable factors in their own constituencies—and the exercise of their power to redress individual grievances is as crucial for the welfare of their constituents as it is for their own job satisfaction. Nor does the knowledge that the job well done brings marginal electoral assets harm the constituents' personal vote if habitually underestimated. Conversely those who are not properly looked after by their MPs could and should obtain their electoral revenge.

I am one of many members who feel that the guts would be kicked out of the parliament if we were robbed of the right, the power and the duty to represent individuals in our areas. The schools, the hospitals, the clubs—all are part of our lives—and we have a personal relationship with our constituents.

This is no mere parochial attitude. It is often through fighting for our constituents and dealing with their individual problems that we keep in touch with live problems. And to cope with the anguish of individual constituents, we are obliged to campaign for changes in the law of the land. Democracy spreads from the individual and the single

member constituency, into Westminster and out into concern for the country as a whole. Remove concern for the individual constituent—and the power of the Tribunal over constituent devils—MP—and you destroy the sovereignty of Parliamentarians. Yours faithfully, GREVILLE JANNER, House of Commons. June 18.

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From Lord Garner
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Establishing a fair electoral system

From Mr Oliver Weaver
Sir, A fair electoral system in which the first preference of electors is proportionately represented in Parliament could be achieved as follows:

Assuming a Parliament of 700 members:

- (1) The country is divided into (say) 500 constituencies and 500 members are elected as at present;
- (2) The remaining 200 members comprise such of the defeated candidates of any given party polling the highest percentage of votes cast in their relative constituency as is necessary to enable each party's overall proportion of the aggregate number of the 700 members of Parliament to correspond, as nearly as possible, with its percentage of the overall national poll.

Thus, to take a simple example:

Party	Overall vote	Constituency members	Additional members
Lab	42	234	240
Cons	38	226	210
Lib	20	140	30

The additional Labour members comprise the 54 defeated Labour candidates polling the highest proportion of the votes cast in their respective constituencies. Similarly in the case of the Conservatives and Liberals.

The advantages of such a system are:

- (i) It achieves proportionate representation and gives an equal value to every vote cast;
- (ii) It retains the constituency system;
- (iii) It is simple and avoids multiple voting.

All members of Parliament are elected.

The system is far from perfect but it is, in my view, worthy of serious consideration.

Yours faithfully, OLIVER WEAVER, 2, Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

From Mr Grenville Janner, QC, Labour MP for Leicester, West
Sir, The abolition of the single member constituency would destroy the most important element of our democracy. The top priority of an MP is to the public, to the protection of individual liberties against infringements upon their freedom, dignity or rights.

Most backbenchers are relatively powerless at Westminster—but they are notable factors in their own constituencies—and the exercise of their power to redress individual grievances is as crucial for the welfare of their constituents as it is for their own job satisfaction. Nor does the knowledge that the job well done brings marginal electoral assets harm the constituents' personal vote if habitually underestimated. Conversely those who are not properly looked after by their MPs could and should obtain their electoral revenge.

I am one of many members who feel that the guts would be kicked out of the parliament if we were robbed of the right, the power and the duty to represent individuals in our areas. The schools, the hospitals, the clubs—all are part of our lives—and we have a personal relationship with our constituents.

This is no mere parochial attitude. It is often through fighting for our constituents and dealing with their individual problems that we keep in touch with live problems. And to cope with the anguish of individual constituents, we are obliged to campaign for changes in the law of the land. Democracy spreads from the individual and the single

member constituency, into Westminster and out into concern for the country as a whole. Remove concern for the individual constituent—and the power of the Tribunal over constituent devils—MP—and you destroy the sovereignty of Parliamentarians. Yours faithfully, GREVILLE JANNER, House of Commons. June 18.

Commonwealth secretariat

From Lord Garner
Sir, In an otherwise admirable article on Mr Arnold Smith in the *Times* of June 13, my old friend Roy Lewis made the astonishing statement that the FO "which had previously run the machine" were affronted by the proposal of a Commonwealth secretariat, and that "had the officials had their way, the Commonwealth would be dead now".

The facts are that senior officials in the Cabinet office and in the Commonwealth Relations Office (the matter had nothing to do with the FO) in the circumstances of 1964, the task of providing the secretariat for meetings of Prime Ministers an increasingly invidious one and would not have wished it to continue. From the outset therefore they favoured the setting-up of a Commonwealth secretariat. Prime ministers remitted the proposal for study by officials. As the leader of the team of British officials I sought and received instructions from ministers to welcome the proposal; this I did in the opening statement made to the committee.

Yours, etc, GARNER, House of Lords. June 17.

Hawksmoor's masterpiece

From Mrs Elizabeth Young
Sir, The Bishop of Stepney cannot have written his letter (June 16) about Christchurch, Spitalfields, yet further to discourage those he sees as already "so alienated" from the Church and from "the truth of the Gospel" that he will be its effect. The Bishop recognizes that the social work going on in the crypt of Christchurch is "a living witness to the compassion of Christ". Can he not also recognize that Christchurch, as a great and amazing building, is equally living witness to the glory of God? Does he really not know about great genius, and great religious art—Michelangelo's, Bach's, Donne's?

Hawksmoor's church is no more a national monument to the work of a great architect than the work of the Spitalfields Crypt Trust with its "vagrant alcoholics" is a monument to the admirable rector who initiated it. Both stand witness to "the truth of the Gospel" but in different ways.

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Railwaymen's claim in 'real' terms

From Mr Colin McDonald
Sir, Mr Weighell's letter (June 17) is puzzling.

1. If a rise of 37 per cent only produces £2.65 in "real" terms, then the base for the percentage (ie, presumably, what the railwaymen currently get in "real" terms) must only be about £9.60. Surely not!

2. By the same calculation, a rise of 35 per cent, which is what Mr Weighell is asking for, would only produce another £3.36, which is still well below what he quotes for the miners, the police, etc.

Something seems fishy about all this. If Mr Weighell wants to make a convincing case, he ought to explain the mathematics clearly, so that even people like me cannot possibly misunderstand him.

Until this is done, the argument from resentment (the cry of the spoilt child down the ages) will not win sympathy. Saying that you want something (and will scream until you get it) is not a good reason for being given it. And what about all the poor people who have uncompensatingly put up with 0 (or a minus figure) in "real" terms?

Yours sincerely, COLIN McDONALD, Pickwater, Pine Avenue, Camberley, Surrey. June 17.

From Mr W. D. Booth
Sir, Reference the letter from Mr Weighell regarding the proposed rail strike, may I be allowed to give a word of warning to the members of the NUR?

Prior to 1926 I was on the front-line and was a staunch member of the same union. We were told by the executive how we would be looked after if we came out and that when it was all over and won we should all go back to work with no strings. When it was all over thousands of us were finished or offered to do for us—not one thing and we were thrown on the scrap heap with no prospect.

This could happen again and I hope that the younger and will have the common sense to see what lies ahead for them if they should fall for the same glib talk. With the country in the state it is, think hard and think some more before it is too late.

Yours sincerely, W. D. BOOTH, 3 Brooklands Road, Ansell, Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire. June 17.

From Mr R. Goldberg
Sir, One may agree with your Labour Editor that a confrontation with the railwaymen would risk creating a climate of antagonism on the part of the unions, but nevertheless consider that his proposition is dangerously misconceived. It does not matter whether or not the unions will agree to a new or revised social contract. Even if the TUC on behalf of the unions do agree, the individual

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Paintings in St Paul's

From Mr J. S. M. Scott
Sir, I wonder if I alone regret the removal of the two large G. E. Watts paintings in the nave of St Paul's. According to the Surveyor to the Fabric of the Cathedral most people have been glad they have been taken down. Beneath one is written: Whosoever thy hand findeth to do it with thy might, For there is no work nor device, nor knowledge nor wisdom in the grave, Whithersoever thou goest.

In these most difficult times this is a grand and worthy exhortation; I deeply hope these paintings will be replaced as an inspiration to us all. Yours faithfully, J. S. M. SCOTT, West Penthouse, 125 Park Road, NW8. June 11.

unions will not adhere to any such agreement. Nor has the TUC any power to enforce compliance.

Consider the evidence. The claim by the National Union of Railwaymen is entirely selfish. They are not seriously alleging that their demands are based on necessity. The basis of the claim is comparability with claims achieved by other unions. This is a clear breach of the social contract. Nevertheless, even sensible and moderate union leaders and those represented on the TUC General Council such as Tom Jackson, have apparently agreed with the NUR to assist in making the strike effective, notwithstanding the harm that would be caused to their own members if the NUR were to succeed, and their own pledge to maintain the social contract.

Unfortunately, it seems clear that only the inescapable logic of events such as mass unemployment will bring the unions to realize the error of their actions. In the meantime the Government must resist the NUR claim and prepare to introduce an effective incomes policy.

Yours faithfully, R. GOLDBERG, 6 Malmes Close, Beckenham, Kent. June 13.

From Mr Alex Myddelton
Sir, May I express the wish that Mr Weighell had not used the word justice in describing his claim for higher wages? In a just and rational world the railwaymen would accept that there is no good reason why their standard of living should be maintained at the cost of heavy and increasing subsidies paid by the taxpayer to their employer. What morality justifies their privileged protection from that decline in real incomes already and inevitably experienced in this recession by many employees in the non-monopoly private sector of industry?

Furthermore this claim will help to speed the inflation or loss in value of the currency which is itself fundamentally unjust to all those people who believed that the Government would fulfil its duty to preserve the value of its own banknotes, and in particular to those older people whose claim on the community (in the form of pensions and savings) for past services is thus repudiated.

It may well be that the demands of Mr Weighell will be met by this administration, an administration that bears an uncanny resemblance to that of Esherel the Unready; but, when this country has experienced the full effects of hyperinflation, it will be clearly understood that the relative power and greed of industrial blackmilers has little connexion with justice.

Yours, etc, ALEX MYDDELTON, 41 Forster Court, Edgware Road, W2. June 17.

the Church should protect and cherish all these things, and recognize that here too is powerful "evangelism, mission and... witness".

The Church does need Christchurch, Spitalfields, restored and in use; state money to help will be available all the sooner if the Church modifies its present stand on "ecclesiastical exemption" from planning and conservation law.

Yours, etc, ELIZABETH YOUNG, Secretary of the Hawksmoor Committee, 100 Bayswater Road, W2.

Sale of British aircraft

From Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Conservative MP for Chertsey and Walton
Sir, If it is true that every cloud has a silver lining, then the four nations' decision to buy the American F16 fighter aircraft may lead France to reconsider its position as a non-member of Nato. Hitherto, she has enjoyed an inside track in terms of arms sales to Nato members without having to be encumbered with the liabilities of membership.

Some aspects of the affair were as predictable as others were unpredictable. It was to be expected that the competition between the French and Americans would be as fierce as it turned out to be. Indeed, the heat in the kitchen almost overcame the Belgian cabinet.

It was almost to be expected that no British aircraft would feature on the final short list. No other industrial nation in the world has a Government which is so lukewarm in supporting its own products or a defence sales organization which is so useless at selling them. Makers of British aircraft are left to their own wits while their competitors enjoy the full support of their governments.

The unexpected aspect was the degree to which the four nations strayed from the main operational need which is for a low level strike and reconnaissance aircraft rather than a high level interceptor. It just so happens that an excellent low level strike and reconnaissance aircraft is now in service. It is called the Jaguar and it is made in this country by the British Aircraft Corporation. Perhaps if it had been American, the four nations might have bought it.

Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY PATTIE, House of Commons.

All inclusive

From Mr William Douglas-Home
Sir, A local plumbing firm recently attached the mains water to my house and charged me £21 for material and £126 for labour (the mains pipe surfaced a yard from my kitchen window).

In reply to my inquiry regarding the large labour costs they explained that "this sum included all travelling expenses, insurance, holiday pay, etc."

I looked in vain for any offer of some contribution to my own insurance stamps or to my holiday in August.

I am, Sir, yours, WILLIAM DOUGLAS-HOME, Garrick Club, WC2.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Wage inflation goes on, but slowdown in growth rate of earnings

London. Wage inflation continued to increase in June, with a sharp rise in the April-June period. Evidence in recent months has shown a slowdown in earnings growth, but the rate of increase in wages has not yet slowed down.

WAGES			
The following are the index numbers for basic rates of wages for all manual workers in all industries and services in Great Britain covered by the monthly earnings inquiry released by the Department of Employment yesterday:			
	1974	1975	% change
Jan	138.7	141.8	2.2
Feb	145.5	148.5	2.0
Mar	148.3	151.2	1.9
Apr	153.9	158.0	2.6
May	158.0	162.2	2.6
Jun	162.2	166.2	2.5
Jul	166.2	170.2	2.4
Aug	170.2	174.2	2.3
Sep	174.2	178.2	2.3
Oct	178.2	182.2	2.2
Nov	182.2	186.2	2.2
Dec	186.2	190.2	2.1
1975	190.2	194.2	2.1
Jan	194.2	198.2	2.0
Feb	198.2	202.2	2.0
Mar	202.2	206.2	2.0
Apr	206.2	210.2	1.9
May	210.2	214.2	1.9
Jun	214.2	218.2	1.9

Provisional figures for June 1975 are based on preliminary data. The figures for June 1975 are based on preliminary data. The figures for June 1975 are based on preliminary data.

Wage inflation continues to be a major concern for the Government. The rate of increase in wages has not yet slowed down, despite the fact that the rate of increase in earnings has slowed down. The Government is concerned that this could lead to a further increase in inflation.

Mr Murray blames productivity

Mr Murray, secretary of the TUC, has blamed the productivity crisis on the Government. He said that the Government's policies have led to a decline in productivity, which is a major cause of the current economic problems.

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100 white collar jobs in 'to disappear soon'

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Low output threatens pits' bonus

Productivity in the mining industry has fallen so sharply that the pits' bonus is in jeopardy. The Government is concerned that this could lead to a further increase in inflation.

Boosey & Hawkes Limited

Music Publishers and Musical Instrument Manufacturers			
	1974	1975	1976
Revenue	£10,400,000	£8,500,000	£7,000,000
Profit before tax	£1,520,000	£1,052,000	£752,000
Profit after tax	£1,120,000	£752,000	£552,000
Dividends per share	15.6p	10.1p	9.4p

Extracts from comments made by the Chairman Mr H. P. Barker at the Annual General Meeting on June 18th:

SICAL INSTRUMENTS—We could sell more if we could produce more.
SIC PUBLISHERS—Our copyright works under the thumb of some of the greatest composers in history.
PORTS—The value of our exports should rise again this year.
ASPECTS—The long term prospects for the sic business are very good. Music as a human activity seems to have as long a future as it has a past.
Notes of the 1974 Report and Accounts are available on request from the Secretary, 295, Regent Street, London W1A 1BB.

Leyland board behind state control

By Our Financial Editor. British Leyland's board is recommending shareholders to vote for the Scheme of Arrangements which would allow the Government to take control of the company.

There is growing opposition to the Scheme, and the price of 10p a share which is being offered to those shareholders who decide to sell from some small shareholder groups.

Nevertheless, Lord Stokes, British Leyland's chairman, says that if the Scheme is rejected the likelihood would be of a liquidation move.

Both the board of the company and its auditors, Coopers & Lybrand, consider that "shareholders in a liquidation could not expect with confidence to receive any payment in respect of their shares", says Lord Stokes.

Mr Adamson to resign as CBI chief

By Malcolm Brown. Mr Campbell Adamson, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, is to resign. He is giving up the role of industry's chief negotiator and spokesman in mid-1976.

Mr Benn turns on the North Sea oil flow

By Roger Berthoud. On what Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, called "this day of national celebration", the first load of North Sea oil was pumped ashore yesterday at a British refinery on the Isle of Grain, Kent.

There is no one living in any part of the United Kingdom who does not feel conscious of the historic nature of the achievement. Mr Benn said, "This is a big day for the country, and for the people."

Mr Benn and his aides reckoned that self-sufficiency in oil should be achieved in the early 1980s, and that by 1990 Britain would be among the world's top seven oil producers. "This is a big day for the country, and for the people."

Industry facing disruption within days if the strike by railwaymen goes ahead

By Our Industrial Staff. Nationalized industries and many big companies face severe disruption within days if the railwaymen go ahead with their threatened strike from midnight on Sunday.

Supplies of many essential raw materials and fuel would be cut off, and many big companies would be faced with severe disruption within days if the railwaymen go ahead with their threatened strike from midnight on Sunday.

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Oslo may back loan for Aker

Oslo, June 18.—The Norwegian government is to consider assisting the Aker shipbuilding and engineering group in raising a substantial loan to help finance the group's long-term conversion problems.

How the markets moved

Rises		Falls	
Ass Port Cement	1p to 144p	Avon Rubber	15p to 41p
Austin, E.	3p to 43p	Barclays	10p to 29p
Brit & Comm	3p to 43p	Boebling	6p to 28p
BP	5p to 52p	Boebling	6p to 28p
Burmah Oil	2p to 32p	Boebling	6p to 28p
EMI	1p to 17p	Boebling	6p to 28p

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
Australia	1.76	1.71
Austria	38.75	36.75
Belgium	84.00	81.25
Canada	2.31	2.31
Denmark	12.60	12.20
Finland	8.35	8.00
France	9.25	8.95
Germany	5.25	5.25
Greece	67.75	65.50
Hong Kong	11.45	11.00
Italy	1455.00	1405.00
Japan	690.00	665.00
Netherlands	5.40	5.40
Norway	11.30	10.95
Portugal	56.00	54.00
Spain	1.95	1.85
Sweden	128.75	123.75
Switzerland	5.75	5.55
US	2.31	2.26
Yugoslavia	37.75	35.75

Equities drifted lower in this session. Gold edged higher, but very quiet. SDR's was 1.24751 on Wednesday, while SDR's was 1.06823 on Tuesday. The "effective devaluation" rate was 26.3 per cent. Gold fell by 25 cents to \$164.00 an oz. Commodities: Sugar fell yesterday. Reuters' commodity index closed at 1,067.9 (1,061.5 on Tuesday). Reports, pages 20 and 21

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		and Produce Company	18

Fresh rules in fight to safeguard policyholders

By Margaret Stone. Housebreakers, receivers, motor cycle thieves and perpetrators of indecent acts are among those who have in the past tried to obtain control of an insurance company. Others, of that ilk, could now be declared unfit to run an insurance company under the new insurance regulations just laid before Parliament.



Mr Benn and Mr Hamilton operating the discharge valve yesterday between the tanker Theognitor and BP's refinery on the Isle of Grain, Kent.

An equivalent sum is to be paid to the Norwegian shareholders who own the rest of the company. Business Diary, page 19

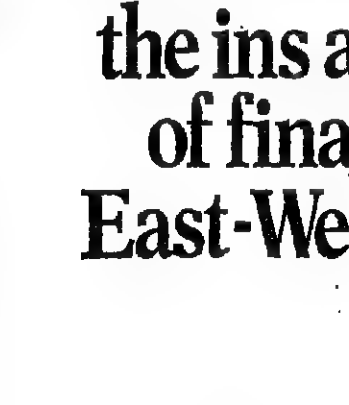
Who really knows the ins and outs of financing East-West trade?

The specialists in financing East-West trade are Moscow Narodny Bank. With over 30 years experience in promoting trade between East and West, Moscow Narodny is now acknowledged as the bank with the best connections and abilities in this specialised area of trade.

Slight recovery in sterling

Sterling made a modest recovery on the foreign exchanges yesterday after its fall on Tuesday to the lowest level ever.

The improvement was accompanied by a rise in the dollar which benefited from an increase in United States Treasury bill interest rates.



The Specialists

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Moscow Narodny Bank

The bank for East-West trade. 24, King William Street, London EC4A 3AD. Branches at Beirut and Singapore. Total assets exceed £1,000,000,000.

Ford door-hangers' strike ends in manning compromise

By R. W. Shakespeare
Northern Industrial
Correspondent

One of the most costly strikes suffered by Ford at its huge Dagenham car plant for many years has ended in a compromise.

The eight-week stoppage has resulted in lost production of about £40m worth of vehicles, and although only about 50 workers have been directly involved in the dispute it has caused the lay-off of another 5,000 and put a further 6,000 on short-time.

The men on strike were door-hangers who work on the Dagenham assembly lines. Ford wanted to reduce manning scales which would mean cutting the number of door-hangers employed from 52 to 36.

The 16 workers affected had been promised alternative employment in the plant, but the strikers insisted that the existing manning scales must be retained.

Now, after further negotiations this week, the strikers have accepted a settlement in which the manning scale will be reduced by 10 to 42. There will also be a joint management union job evaluation exercise covering the door-hangers' work.

The strikers voted at a meeting yesterday to accept the new terms. They will go back to work on Monday and the 5,000 other assembly workers at Dagenham will be recalled.

The plant will resume full five-day week working—it was on a three-day week before the strike—so as to catch up on production losses which total more than 20,000 cars.

Today will see a return to work by 10,000 workers who

have been staging a three-day strike at British Leyland's nine Rover car plants, seven in the Midlands and two at Cardiff.

There will be more negotiations on a pay deal in which the Rover men have so far rejected a company offer of increases of more than £6 a week. The strikers are demanding another £5 on top of the company offer and shop stewards have given a warning that unless there is a settlement there could be an indefinite strike from Monday.

Unless there are some fresh moves to settle another car industry strike by some 360 workers at a Chrysler components factory in Coventry, the American-owned company may again face a shutdown of all its car assembly operations in Britain after the weekend.

The workers, who make plastic components for the entire Chrysler car range, are claiming payment for time when they were laid off because of the recent strike by 4,500 of the company's engines factory in Coventry.

Peter Hill writes: Steelworkers employed at the Port Talbot complex of the British Steel Corporation in South Wales continued their strike yesterday as talks were taking place in an effort to resolve the dispute.

Some 4,000 workers are involved in the stoppage over a dispute on a plan by the BSC to revise shift working.

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Super power RB 211 passes its test

By Arthur Reed

Rolls-Royce announced yesterday that it had completed a successful test of its RB 211 jet engine, coded the 524, at a thrust equivalent to 50,000lb on take-off.

This compares with the 42,000lb rating of the 22 version which powers Lockheed TriStar aircraft at present in service with a number of airlines throughout the world.

Rolls said that after the test the engine was stripped and examined by representatives of the Civil Aviation Authority who had expressed themselves, "very pleased" with its mechanical condition.

The company now expects the 524 to be certificated for airline operation later this year. It is due to be delivered to airlines in April next year.

The completing-in five weeks less than was expected—of the 524 has added significantly to the momentum of a decision by the British Government on whether it should power the Boeing 747 jumbo is expected next week.

The decision is expected to be favourable, even though the Government has declined support for the project in the past unless Boeing and Rolls would agree to a foreign airline in addition to a sale to British Airways.

The Government is now believed to be ready to drop its foreign airline proviso. At the same time, it may authorize the thrust of the 211 to be increased still further, to 53,000lb.

The cost of modifying the 747 and further upgrading the engine would total around £40m, but could lead to some £400m worth of future engine sales.

Need for companies to recover wage costs for investment

By David Young

A warning that companies will shortly have to recover the high wage costs now being paid if they are to secure adequate investment in production capacity for the time when demand returns is contained in the latest monthly survey of prices by the Institute of Purchasing and Supply.

This is a pessimistic note in a survey which has otherwise optimistic conclusions, with manufacturers and material suppliers seeking the smallest number of price increases in any month since the survey was launched in late 1973.

There is further encouragement in the fact that the rate of price increases continued to decline from the peak of 14.7 per cent in February to just over 10 per cent.

The size of manufacturers' price rises is now back to the levels seen in the last four months of 1974, when the average was below the 10.5 per cent mark.

This continued downward trend, the institute says, confirms the findings of the recent Department of Industry's index of manufacturers' home sales output prices, which showed the smallest

monthly increase in prices other than in food, drink and tobacco, for 18 months.

The obvious reason for this is that declining commodity costs, coupled with falling demand, are preventing firms from raising prices. The budgetary measures and the EEC referendum are likely to have been very much secondary reasons for the decline in manufacturers' price rises, the institute adds.

It gives a warning, however, that there are already signs that the tight cash-cost position is beginning to have its effects.

The larger Category One companies involved in the survey sought more than 100 separate increases in May, the largest sample for some months. The size of the Category One rises also rose in May to 9.98 per cent, compared with less than 9.5 per cent a month before.

Smaller companies are also in a position where they will have to begin recovering increased wage costs, and all the indications suggest that the three-month decline in industrial price rises recorded may prove to be only temporary.

The escalation of wages is shortly brought under tighter control.

W German GNP shows drop of 1.5 pc

From Peter Norman

Bonn, June 18

West Germany's Federal Bank has confirmed the fact that the German economy has still not broken out of the recession phase it entered last autumn. In its latest monthly report, the bank stated that there have been no significant expansionary impulses in certain sectors of the economy, but these have not proved strong enough to bring a general improvement.

In the first quarter of this year, real gross national product, adjusted for seasonal and calendar factors, was down 1.5 per cent compared with the final quarter of last year and 3 per cent lower than in the first quarter of 1974.

According to the bank's report the most important demand prop in West Germany has been a rise in private consumption. Despite falling employment and record savings this rose at a nominal rate of about 9 per cent in the first quarter compared with the same period of last year and gained in real terms by an estimated 2.5 per cent.

However, the inclination to invest among businessmen has remained weak. The bank said investment in equipment and building fell in the first three months of this year compared with the final quarter of 1974, concluding that "businessmen's expectations for the future, which are decisive for investment planning, have been muted above all by the fall in export business".

The fall in export demand has been unexpectedly marked with new orders from abroad dropping by about a sixth in the first four months of this year compared with a year before.

Japanese economy is 'on way up'

From Peter Hazelhurst

Tokyo, June 18

A leading economic research centre has predicted that Japan will emerge from the current fiscal year with a meagre growth rate of 2.1 per cent, but the country will attain a spectacular net growth rate of 8.9 per cent by 1975, when the government's anti-recessionary measures begin to take effect.

Releasing the results of projected investigations, the Nomura Research Institute of Technology and Economics claimed that the current business slump will continue throughout the fiscal year but that the economy will pick up in 1976.

The institute, which called on the government to compile a supplementary budget to stimulate the economy, also predicted that the Bank of Japan will have to cut its current discount rate of eight per cent by another 2 per cent towards the end of the year.

As the report was released, the government announced a three-point package of measures to stimulate the economy, promote housing projects, increase public works spending and expand anti-pollution investment.

The eight-point programme which was approved by the Council of Economic Advisors is expected to create demand in the region of £2,686m.

This is the third time that the government has bowed before the demands of big business during the past six months to ease its tight money policy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hysterical reaction against Rent Act unwarranted

From Father P. Byrne

Sir, I fear that in reacting in a somewhat hysterical fashion against the 1974 Rent Act, Mr Jacobs (June 16) has perpetuated many of the myths surrounding this Act, and, in doing so, has made a number of inaccurate and muddled statements.

First, while agreeing that the level of empty private property gives great cause for concern, I would dispute the assertion that half of the properties owned by the Rent Act. Research carried out here at SHAC leads us to the conclusion that it is still too early to judge the full effects of the Act.

We believe that much of this property stands empty because individuals or property companies who bought property during the boom of the early seventies are reluctant to sell without recouping the full cost of their property—that is both the price and the interest charges paid since the date of purchase.

A large number of flats remain empty; the result of hasty conversions carried out for speculative purposes during the boom period. Many companies are more interested in quick profits through sale than in income derived from rents, even fair rents, which carries with it management costs.

Second, it is nonsense to suggest that squatting is a direct consequence of the Rent Act. The current squatting movement chronologically predates the current Rent Act, developing as it did in the late sixties and early seventies as a symptom of the chronic shortage of accommodation available for rent at a reasonable level, but also in part as an expression of an ideological stance against property.

Third, it is also incorrect to state that there are only an estimated "30,000 genuinely homeless people in this country". Mr Jacobs is here quoting the official statistics of applications for assistance to local authorities, which have certain limitations. They do not

in the main include homeless single persons, families who have not contacted local authorities or families who are not eligible for local authority assistance. Many families do not contact local authorities for a variety of reasons, but turn to relatives and friends for help.

Also, excluded from these figures are the countless thousands of families living in overcrowded and unfit properties according to official DOF figures for 1971, the number of unfit properties in England and Wales was 1,244 million (7.3 per cent of the total housing stock), and the number of properties lacking one or more basic amenities was 2,865 million (16.8 per cent of the total housing stock). There is reason to believe that these figures were underestimates. In 1971 and that the percentage of unfit properties is now higher.

The SHAC view when the Rent Act was passed was, on balance, in support. We felt that the gain in security for the tenant who had lived with uncertainty prior to the Act, outweighed the possible resultant loss of accommodation. Evidence from SHAC's casework shows that the number of families with security problems seeking help from SHAC has fallen substantially since the implementation of the Act.

Surely Mr Jacobs could take a more constructive approach, pointing out more fully to the landlords that their actions are unjustified. The resident landlord, for instance, has greater freedom of action since the Act, as he is now able to let rooms unfurnished as well as furnished without the tenant enjoying full security and the landlord can still regain possession through the courts where tenants can be proved to have caused a nuisance, damage to the property, broken the conditions of their tenancy or failed to pay their rent.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL BYRNE, Director,
Shelter Housing Aid Society,
189A Old Brompton Road,
London, SW5.

Manchester's fine example with compute

From Mr Allan Clayton

Sir, Mr Owen has shown agreement. June 16, Greater Manchester. Tra has made substantial progress in the purchase of a hand computer.

Let us hope that awareness of cost does not escape the notice of other authorities, faced as are with the need to effective cuts in expenditure to the current financial climate.

It is a sad reflection of authority, however, that the "compute", laudable as it was the first of its type in the United Kingdom, though such decisions have been commonplace in United States for three years. Any attack on inflation always be taken that much seriously by the public as if central or local government a decisive lead to costs.

Yours faithfully,
ALLAN CLAYTON,
Flat 3,
84 Westbourne Terrace,
London, W2,
June 16

Beheading a Benn myth

From Mr Michael Ivens

Sir, You reported us as (June 13) that we £300,000 to get rid of Mr. Benn. This is the way myths are started. It should hit this on the right away.

At a press conference I said "our campaign for 'Bennory' last year, £300,000. That is a very recent thing."

It is true that we, I, a critic of Mr Benn, but also said last year that he was one of the few Ministers who was actually preaching what he practised.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL IVENS,
Aims for Freedom and
Equality,
5 Plough Place,
Fetter Lane, London, EC4.

Engineers' desire for a unified body

From Mr J. A. Wakefield

Sir, Professor Coles in his capacity as chairman of the Council of Engineering Institutions expresses in his letter of June 11 so well the fears of many engineers, whose principal concern is to serve the community in which they live. The very thing that they want is to harm that community.

For that very reason professional engineers have made several attempts to form a strong organisation which he describes. Unfortunately, each attempt has been frustrated by influential engineers, who were suspicious of a body which might seek to benefit its members by bullying the employers.

It might have been thought that the recent attempt by the presidents of the three major institutions would have been welcomed by everyone, because they proposed one democratic institution, the governing body of which was to be elected by a ballot of all chartered engineers.

The unfortunate fact is that the Council of Engineering Institutions, the federal body to whom the three presidents referred their proposals, insists that the new body, if ever it is formed, shall be governed by a council with a federal structure.

It is believed by many of us in the profession that the CEI could have been very much more effective but for its federal structure and, therefore, it makes no sense to form another

body similar in most respects except in name.

At no time have all members of the engineering profession been asked how they wish to be governed, and I believe shall not be alone in asking the CEI to organise a referendum amongst all members of their 15 constituent institutions. It is dangerous if they fail to do this the three major institutions may be obliged to go alone and thereby split professional ranks.

A. WAKEFIELD,
The United Kingdom
Association of Professional
Engineers,
Wix Hill House,
West Horsley, Surrey.

COMPANY MEETING

THE SABAH TIMBER COMPANY LIMITED

Mr. H. G. C. Townsend's review

The Annual General Meeting of The Sabah Timber Company Limited will be held on July 11th in London. The following is an extract from the circulated statement by Mr. H. G. C. Townsend, O.B.E., the Chairman.

Group profit for 1974, before taxation after the payment of £1,569,640 in royalties to the Sabah Government was £5,067,031. Of this figure, 63 per cent came from the group's UK activities and 37 per cent from logging operations in Sabah.

Taxation absorbed £3,340,365. The directors recommend a final distribution of 0.37414p per share, making 1.22414p for the year, the maximum permitted (1973: 1.1281p) being £131,184 to be added to reserves.

As was to be expected in view of the sharp deterioration in the general business climate, and particularly in construction activity, these results fall well short of the all-time record established in the exceptionally favourable conditions of 1973. Profit was down by 38 per cent before and 44 per cent after tax, but was well ahead of the 1972 level achieved before 1973.

For the UK as a whole, the number of housing starts and the volume of apparent softwood consumption each fell in 1974 by some 23 per cent, leading inevitably to an increase in imports and merchants' stocks, and in costs of finance. Towards the end of 1974, however, since the Sabah Government reduced the rate of the net bank overdraft, liquidity has been aided by the provisions of the last two budgets relating to increases in the value of stocks, which result in the deferment of payment of £3,834,025 of the same provided for 1974 taxation in the 1973 and 1974 accounts.

Eastern Sector: After opening strongly, the Southeast Asian log market weakened steadily from April onwards. By the end of the year prices at the port of shipment stood at about half the March level and the production of some grades and species had become uneconomical.

Production which was kept well in line with sales to avoid any build-up of stocks, was just under 3 million cubic feet.

solid achievement in a when a number of producers were obliged to suspend operations altogether for periods.

At the beginning of 1975 log export restriction scheme was introduced by agreement between Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. Bearing this mind, and the general economic situation, we are expecting further fall in production year to about 7 million cubic feet.

United Kingdom: Since the end of 1973, already made to the downturn in construction industry to the fortunes of the UK trade are closely allied, and the resultant build-up of stocks and borrowings continued to come were under contracts made in 1973.

Liquidity: Profit accentuated by the restraint Government price control replacement costs were rising, made themselves most evident in the price of timber.

With a similar fall in demand in other consuming countries in Scandinavia elsewhere have cut back production in an endeavour to prevent the market dropping to an uneconomical level. Prices have nevertheless fallen back somewhat, rising for seven successive years and due allowance been made for this in the valuation of stocks.

Despite these adverse factors Sabah subsidiary company gave a good account of itself by returning against results for 1974 which could be considered exceptional by other standards than that of 1973.

Meanwhile the steady growth of our UK network continues. All the new members of the group have a first-class reputation and in line with established policy it will be the aim to develop and foster the trade and enterprise within the group framework. We are receptive to further opportunities for growth.

Trading conditions remain difficult and it would be unrealistic to expect any recovery in demand. However, it is hoped to take advantage of any upswing when it comes.

Big advertising agency to make 20pc staff cut

By Patricia Tisdall

Leo Burnett, one of Britain's largest advertising agencies, announced staff cuts yesterday which will reduce their overall employee total by more than 20 per cent.

The cuts which are part of a major reorganization drive, will involve about 50 redundancies and bring the agency's staff total to fewer than 200. Those affected are mainly concerned with planning and administration.

Commenting on the rationalization programme, Mr Gordon Barrett, the agency's managing director, said it arose from depressed conditions in the packaged goods and consumer goods fields which had led to static advertising billings. The agency was concentrating on its main media buying and creative functions.

ITV revenue drops

A reduction of 3 per cent in independent television's net advertisement revenue earnings last month compared with May, 1974, is attributed to the effects of the strike which halted transmissions. The Independent Television Companies Association gave the figure for last month as £13,274,506, against £13,690,223 a year earlier.

Business appointments

New chairman chosen for Edward Bates (Holdings)

Mr D. Keown-Boyd has succeeded Mr C. G. Gammon as chairman of Edward Bates and Sons (Holdings). Mr Gammon remains on the board.

Mr Dick Taverner has joined the board of BOC International.

Mr Michael Heelas has been made managing director of Volkswagen (GB) from September 1. Mr John Wagner, the present managing director of Volkswagen (GB), is to take over Group 1 (and 2), the family-owned import company which is based in the Kingdom distributor of Havelblad, the Swedish camera. He has acquired a controlling interest in the company since the death of his father.

Mr Donald Ealy has been elected a vice-president of International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation. He will continue as director of administration for ITT Europe.

Mr M. J. Curtus, deputy chairman of Millbank Technical Services, has been designated deputy chairman and chief executive. Mr N. Hewins and Mr E. A. Kirkby become joint managing directors. Dr F. T. Hamblin is now director of administration.

Lord Hewlett, who joined the board of Millbank Technical Services in May, has been elected chairman in succession to Mr Leslie Hiles, who is retiring. Mr John Womersley will now be chief executive and Mr Roland Eastman deputy chairman. The product trading activities of Gill & Duffus and Laudauer (Produce) have been merged under

the name of Gill & Duffus Laudauer. Mr R. J. Thorne has been elected chairman and managing director and Mr W. G. Brown, Mr H. B. Fossey, Mr C. J. Rockett, Mr R. A. Seaborn and Mr E. H. Wilden have been made directors.

Mr T. R. Harrison has become director of finance for Dow Chemical Europe, in addition to his responsibilities as controller.

Mr Peter Brewin has been made managing director of Bemoose & Sons, a subsidiary of the Bemoose Corporation.

Mr R. A. Leeks is to become manager, Kodak marketing division, as from July 1, after the retirement of Mr A. R. Phillips and Mr M. J. Hunt have been made directors of Anderson Finch Villiers.

Mr Robert Bartlett has become national sales manager of Playtex Bowers marking systems division.

Mr Nicholas Beard and Mr John Newman join the main board of Brentnall Beard Holdings.

Mr R. F. S. Kimber, general manager, and Mr M. W. Scote, company secretary, have been made additional directors of Southern Newspapers.

Mr R. E. L. Pullman, general manager, and Mr W. G. F. Diddam, company secretary, and deputy general manager, become additional directors of Southernprint.

Mr Richard Jones is the new sales director of Wichita Company.

Compagnie Financière de Paris et des Pays-Bas.

Financial Highlights	(Millions of Francs)	
	1973	1974
Consolidated results for the Paribas Group		
Consolidated earnings	289	310
Compagnie Financière's share	219	241
Earnings per share	F.21.52	F.23.72
Value per share	F.360	F.333
Compagnie Financière		
Profit for the Year	115	120.7
Distribution	96	111.3
Dividend per share	F.9.45	F.11

The Annual General Meeting held on June 2nd approved the 1973 Accounts and voted a dividend of F.11. Assets of the group increased from F36,946 million to F52,372 million in 1973, an increase of 15%. Compagnie Financière's share, after deduction of minority interests, reached F241 million compared with F219 million. Earnings from Banking activities represent 42.5% of the total, and earnings from group holdings 57.5%. Foreign earnings reached 40% (compared with 27%), the remaining 60% coming from activities in France. The net earnings per share rose by 10% from F21.52 to F23.72.

International Expansion

On the international front, the Paribas group has

extended its operations into the Middle East, and in the American market.

In the Middle East, the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas is now represented in Doha (Qatar) and Abu Dhabi with branches opened in 1973, in Dubai (1974) and Muscat (1975) and will shortly open a branch in Bahrain. It also has a share in the Banque de Sharjah, opened in 1974.

In the United States, the merger of Warburg-Paribas Inc. with AG-Becker, and the creation of the Becker and Warburg-Paribas Group Inc. has increased the Paribas potential in the American market, and permits it to offer in the United States a complete range of banking and financial services to its clients.

Copies of the Report (in English) will be available after the 24th July 1975 and can be obtained from: Securities Department, S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd, 30 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2EB and from the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, Moor House, 119 London Wall, London EC2Y 5DR.

BRITISH-BORNEO PETROLEUM SYNDICATE LIMITED

Extracts from the Statement of the Chairman at the 61st Annual General Meeting held in London on 18th June 1975

At the Annual General Meeting last year we were in the early stages of a cataclysmic fall in Stock Exchange values which reached its nadir in January of this year. I am glad to tell you that we have now come more than full circle. Today the Stock Exchange value of our investments held at 31st March last is £3,399,000 and it exceeds the Balance Sheet value by £5,288,000.

Despite the difficult conditions during the year our income from investments at £475,000 shows an improvement on the previous year of £102,000. Other income at £275,000 benefited from increased activity in the market, dealings which gave us a profit on dealings of £257,500 compared with £128,000 in the previous year. Net profit after taxation amounts to £314,000, an improvement of £40,000. We are once again restrained as to the dividends we are permitted to pay. The interim and final dividends total £227,000 so we are left with £87,000 being added to our reserves.

Taking Stock Exchange values at 31st March last, the make up of our quoted investments was 49% oil companies, 35% gold mining and mining finance, 10% industrial, 4% investment trusts and 2% preference shares.

Our portfolio gives us a strong financial position. We shall continue to be active in long term investment and in dealings. There will be further opportunities to stretch out into oil and other ventures but our main investment will continue to be in quoted securities with the emphasis on the energy and mining fields where we have particular expertise and aspect to continue to do well.

Copies of the full Statement and the 1975 Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries of the Company, 1-3 Broad Street Place, London EC2M 7EP.

The London Asiatic Rubber and Produce Company, Ltd.

Issued & Paid-up Capital . . . £3,480,554 in 10p shares
Secretaries and Agents
Harrison & Crossfield, Limited

	Year ended 31.12.74	Year ended 31.12.73
PROFIT & DIVIDEND		
Profit after tax	£2,949,385	£1,806,855
Dividend for year (maximum permissible)	£ 730,993 (2.10022p)	£

F.H.Lloyd

HOLDINGS LIMITED

GROUP RESULTS

YEAR TO 29th MARCH	1975	1974
	£000	£000
External Sales	£48,589	£35,507
Profit before Taxation	£4,204	£2,343
Taxation	£2,339	£1,122
Available profit of the Group	£1,867	£1,508
Earnings per 25p share	9.6p	6.2p

The Future

Some feeling of anti-climax must inevitably follow the achievement of record results and this is heightened by the onset of a recession which virtually precludes the attainment of greater heights for the time being. While the order books of the heavy engineering companies and the foundries are virtually sufficient to ensure a full year's activity the present low level of demand will prevent the Steel Division from making its full contribution this year and one or two of the lighter Engineering companies will also be adversely affected by the current recession. Whilst at the present time it appears unlikely that the results of the current year will equal the figures now presented to you I am confident that assuming no major change in the economy of this country, they will be well above our previous best year.

Leslie Carrier Chairman

Dividends

An interim dividend of 1.25p per 25p share was paid on 3rd January, 1975. The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of 2.7175p per share making a total for the year of 3.9675p which is the maximum permitted. The final dividend will be payable on 11th August, 1975.

Annual General Meeting

The Report and Accounts will be posted on 28th June, 1975 and the Annual General Meeting will be held at 12 noon on 23rd July, 1975 at Winchester House, 100 Old Broad Street, London E.C.2.

F.H.LLOYD HOLDINGS LTD., JAMES BRIDGE STEEL WORKS, NR, WEDNESBURY, STAFFS.

INTERIM STATEMENT

GUINNESS

Interim Statement

GROUP PROFIT FOR 24 WEEKS TO 15th MARCH 1975

	1975	1974
	£m	£m
SALES Holding and subsidiary companies ...	140.6	113.0
PROFITS Holding and subsidiary companies ...	15.8	13.0
Trading profit before depreciation ...	3.6	3.1
Deduct: Depreciation ...	12.0	9.9
Trading profit (see Note 1) ...	10.8	8.7
Brewing ...	0.1	0.2
Confectionery ...	0.1	0.3
General Trading ...	0.6	0.6
Plastics ...	0.4	0.1
Property ...	0.1	0.1
	12.0	9.9
Income from investments (see Note 2) ...	0.2	0.2
Interest on loan to Associated Company ...	0.2	0.1
	12.4	10.2
Bank and loan interest ...	0.8	0.8
Associated Companies ...	1.2	1.3
Share of profits before taxation (see Note 3) ...	11.0	10.1
Holding, subsidiary and associated companies ...	4.3	4.1
Profit before taxation ...	0.6	0.6
Taxation ...	4.9	4.7
Holding and subsidiary companies (see Note 4) ...	6.1	5.4
Associated companies—share of taxation (see Note 3) ...	0.6	0.5
Profit after taxation ...	5.5	4.9
Less: Minority interests ...	0.5	0.5
Attributable to ordinary stockholders of holding company before extraordinary items ...	5.0	4.4
Less: Extraordinary items after taxation (see Note 5) ...	0.5	0.3
Attributable to ordinary stockholders of holding company after extraordinary items ...	4.5	4.1
INTERIM DIVIDEND (see Note 6) ...	1.7	1.7
EARNINGS PER 25p STOCK UNIT		
Based on average number of stock units in issue ...	5.5	4.9
	54.7	54.0

NOTES

- The trading profit after depreciation of the holding and subsidiary companies attributable to sales in the markets indicated is analysed in the following table:

	1975	1974
	£m	£m
Home	9.5	8.1
Overseas	2.5	1.8
	12.0	9.9

2. Franked investment income includes the associated credit for U.K. corporation tax.

3. The attributable proportion of profits is included in respect of the following associated companies: Harp Lager Ltd., Guinness (Nigeria) Ltd., Cantrell & Cochrane Group Ltd., Sierra Leone Brewery Ltd., Savage Smith & Co. Ltd., Taunton Cider Co. Ltd. and associated companies of Morison Son & Jones International Ltd.

4. (a) Overseas taxation amounts to £0.8m (£0.7m) (b) U.K. corporation tax has been provided at the rate of 52% (52%).

5. Extraordinary items after taxation: 1975 1974

	£m	£m
Modernisation of Dublin brewery	0.3	0.3
Terminal costs of certain non-brewing activities	0.2	0.2
	0.5	0.5

ARTHUR GUINNESS SON AND COMPANY LIMITED

6. INTERIM DIVIDEND

An interim dividend of 1.9675p per 25p ordinary stock unit has been declared which together with the associated tax credit is equivalent to 3.0266p (2.6804p) per 25p ordinary stock unit, an increase of 12.5% compared with last year. The interim dividend will be paid on 11th August, 1975.

In view of the provisions of the U.K. Finance Bill with regard to the treatment of scrip dividends, it is not proposed to offer to stockholders a scrip dividend option in lieu of the cash dividend.

These results follow the pattern which I predicted in my statement at the Annual General Meeting in February. As the full effect of higher duties imposed in the U.K. Budget last April has yet to be felt, and as the general economic climate continues to give cause for concern and uncertainty, I do not propose to give a detailed forecast of our results, but I see no reason to alter the personal opinion I expressed at the Annual General Meeting that for the current year your Company should expect to make profits close to last year's level, and I believe that we have now a good chance of improving on the 1974 figures.

IVEAGH, Chairman

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Still no support for equities

The City was growing increasingly nervous yesterday as it waited in vain for any sign that the national rail strike—now only three days away—could be averted. City traders, helped by a slight improvement in the pound, but for equities it was another day of drifting prices, with trading very thin as the institutions continued to stay out of the market.

Market indices extended their losses. The FT index shed 4.5 to 326.0, a net loss now of 14.6 points over the past three trading sessions. Marked bargains, at 5.745, were again low. Amplified figures for Tuesday disclosed that equity trading was worth only £51m.

The lower trend in equities was beginning to inspire some reticence among stockbrokers. While most agree that the railmen's pay claim provides a test of Government will, few think that the stock market will turn higher if a strike is averted.

What the City wants is to see action by the Government to back up the Chancellor's prediction that United Kingdom inflation will be halved in 12 months. The rejection of a social contract by the engineering unions, together with a refusal by ICI manual workers of a 26 per cent pay rise offer, confirmed City belief that only legal restraint from the Government will curb inflation.

The new shares in Carless Capel & Leonard featured in the market's list of active stocks. At 21 1/2p on the second day of trading, the new shares are finding ready support in the market, which thinks highly both of the group's refinery and its North Sea prospects.

The gilt edged market, which is more directly affected by the day to day progress of the pound, checked its fall. Turnover was extremely low in gilt—often too low to test prices, said dealers. In the event, many prices closed unchanged on the day. The undertone seemed to be firm, however, and further losses in gilts appear unlikely, unless sterling has another bad bout.

It was market day on the food and store prices, where several major traders reported progress. Profits of £23.2m from Tesco Holdings were a shade better than the market forecasts, but the shares eased by 1 1/2p to 46 1/2p on lack of buyers.

Disclosure of the details of the Government Scheme of Arrangement put up on shares in BLMC (19p). Other heavy engineers had a thin time, and generally extended the losses of the past few days. GKN (239p), Tube Investments (254p), Metal Box (255p) and Associated Collieries (278p) were all without supporters, even if selling was light.

The picture was much the same on the blue chip pitches, where Glaxo Holdings (362p) remained out of favour, with the shares adding 6p to the substantial fall suffered since the announcement of the rights issue. At 317p, Bats were dull, and (376p) Beecham (286p) and Courtaulds (122p) all closed at the lowest levels of the day.

The odd feature did penetrate the gloom here and there. Shares in EMI were again prominent at 176p (after 177p), still benefitting from the comprehensive review of their new medical X-ray scanner. Among smaller companies, shares in Weyburn Engineering soared to 21 1/2p (after 22 1/2p) as the bulls weighed up the huge rise in first half profits which reflected the group's central position as a supplier to the diesel engine market. J. Dennis, and B. Fentleman were helped by trading rumours. With profits on target, the shares moved ahead, and a first half recovery lifted Record Ridgeway. But Avon Rubber fell back after disclosing a loss and a missed dividend.

Two bid situations provided fresh factors for market consideration. Shares in Sealed Motor Construction jumped to 44p, after 49p on the increased offer from Myson Group, whose shares were easier at 73p. And there was renewed support for Sheffield Twist & Steel, at 91 1/2p after an overnight state-

ment from SKF raised hopes that the Swedish company may make a final attempt to oust Thorn Electric for control of Sheffield Twist.

Tuesday's upturn in property shares, in the wake of a revival from last week's Securities, proved short-lived. Shares in Land Securities themselves slipped to 176p, a net 5p off, and there were falls also for MEPC and Great Portland Estates.

Disclosure that the year end results will be announced today brought support for shares in British & Commonwealth Shipping, whose shares rose by 8p to 170p. The board has predicted an increase of 10 per cent on last year's profits.

Oil shares could make no headway yesterday, and with the exception of BP, which picked up 5p to 52 1/2p in late trading, most prices hung around overnight levels.

On the mining pitch, Selection Trust weakened to 61 1/2p on the decision to postpone the Agnew development. Possibilities remained easier as the rights issue news was digested, but Great Boulder Mines improved behind offer terms from Western Mining. South African mines issues had a quiet session.

Equity turnover on June 17 £51m (13,642 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph were Glaxo, B.E.I., ICI, Selection Trust, Bats, Bats, Tate & Lyle, Land Securities, Carless Capel and EMI.

Latest dividends

Company	Dividend	Year	Pay date	Year's Prev
Avon Rubber (11) Int	1.67	1974	1.67	1.59
Brown (25p) Int	1.13	1974	1.13	1.13
Brunner (25p) Int	0.7	1974	0.7	0.7
Cardiff (20p) Int	0.7	1974	0.7	0.7
Cattell (25p) Int	2.34	1974	2.34	2.34
Cent & Shearwood (5p) Int	0.16	1974	0.16	0.16
Compair (25p) Int	1.0	1974	1.0	1.0
Decca (10p) Int	0.73	1974	0.73	0.73
Dorm Bids (10p) Int	2.2	1974	2.2	2.2
Arthur Guinness (25p) Int	1.9	1974	1.9	1.9
E. C. Jones (25p) Int	1.6	1974	1.6	1.6
Investment Dist (2p) Int	1.2	1974	1.2	1.2
Investment & Sons (10p) Int	7.5	1974	7.5	7.5
Wm Lawrence (11) Int	2.49	1974	2.49	2.49
Land Securities (25p) Int	1.7	1974	1.7	1.7
E. Lloyd (25p) Int	2.58	1974	2.58	2.58
Met Box (10p) Int	1.02	1974	1.02	1.02
Rexmore (25p) Int	1.0	1974	1.0	1.0
Sack Fin	1.3	1974	1.3	1.3
Tesco (5p) Int	0.58	1974	0.58	0.58
Tollmache & Cobbold (50p) Int	1.0	1974	1.0	1.0
Underman (10p) Int	1.0	1974	1.0	1.0
Whitbread (25p) Int	2.68	1974	2.68	2.68

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax in pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Adjusted for scrip. † Forecast on increased capital.

March 31 pre-tax profits were only £73,000 smaller at £235m. Turnover rose from £14.1m to £14.3m. Earnings a share were held at 19.2p, and the total dividend rose from 6.89p to 7.75p.

Recently, receivers have been appointed to two other offshoots, Tan Sad & Rosedale, while Mr Jones has been replaced by Mr Derek Wilson as chairman.

Mr Jones last week acquired the group's 31.6 per cent stake in Yorkgreen Investment Trust.

Ldn & Northern's strong recovery. Growth in the overseas and metals divisions made for a strong second-half recovery at Ldn & Northern Securities which ends 1974 with a pre-tax profit of £8.2m, against £3.3m.

Turnover expanded from £153m to £224.9m. The dividend is 4.94p, against 4.72p, while earnings a share are reduced from 8.09p to 5.82p.

The group's profits are struck after making a provision of £1.04m against expected losses on fixed-price contracts.

Compair jumps. Sales of Compair for the six months to March 31 rose from £30.5m to £39.7m, while pre-tax profits climbed 31 per cent to a record £3.1m. On attributable profits up from £1.24m to £1.48m, the board of this maker of air compressors and pneumatic tools, is raising the gross dividend from 1.49p to 1.54p a share.

Fertleman peak. Modern and reproduction furniture maker B. Fertleman & Sons, report record pre-tax profits for the year to March 31. At £439,000 these show an increase of 35 per cent. Sales rose 30 per cent to a new high of £3.2m, with exports accounting for almost one third. A further 1-for-1 scrip issue is being made and the total dividend rises from equal to 1.84p to 2.07p.

Viners consolidate. Viners, the Sheffield-based international group manufacturing stainless steel and silver plated cutlery and tableware, has again produced record results, with pre-tax profits of £746,000 for last year, against £727,000. Mr Ruben Viner, chairman, says the board feels that it would be prudent to reorganise the group as a year of consolidation.

Rexmore mishap. Losses in the household textile division of Rexmore left pre-tax profits down from £2.6m to £1.2m in the year to March 31. Turnover also fell from £37.2m to £34.3m. The board says the losses will not be repeated and the reorganization of the division is complete. An encouraging start has been made to the current year.

Heenan suspended. Quotation for ordinary shares of Heenan Spark has been suspended, together with the loan stock quotation for the Heenan

Lindustries facing big fall in orders

By Margaret Drummond. Higher interest charges and a decline in contributions from associates accounted for a fall in pre-tax profits from £1.8m to £1.6m at Lindustries in the six months to mid-March last. But the interim dividend rises from 1.6p gross to 1.8p. The group's largest single contributor, for the first time, saw a drop in trading profits from £1m to £800,000 after an expected decline in domestic markets. Management has taken steps to tighten control of costs and stocks against currently declining production and order levels.

Engineering, which increased profits from £70,000 to £300,000 had as its major problem the "serious" fall in orders from the depressed motor industry. But losses were made at Ammanford factory and Shaw Walker.

The polymer division trading profits from £200,000 to £360,000 despite a decline in orders. The overseas returned profits were ahead at £440,000, but signs of a temporary do in the group's Canadian subsidiary.

The decline in profit associates from £320,000 to £39,000 was almost wholly attributable to a stock write-off one company and does not reflect a significant change in level of business. With costs and declining order, the home market the group's sharp decline in sections of its business.

The directors' report out that there is an agreement between the holding company and Messrs L. and A. R. chartered surveyors, in the management of the group's stake in L. and A. R. Holding & Investment. It reduces the group's assets by 20 per cent, but a net asset of 260p a share.

The group's next valuation is not due until 1978 but the managing agents have found a "typical" group of properties maintaining 1973 values, or falling between 15 per cent and 25 per cent short of them. As a

whole, Mr Alfred Ruben chairman, considers the value of the directors' report to be not more than 20 pence. The directors, Cooper, Ad say that the directors' report value of property March 31, 1975, is less than the accounts.

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LAW No. 89/62

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3 Bonds of £500 nominal capital each—
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4 Bonds of £250 nominal capital each—
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5 Bonds of £125 nominal capital each—
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6 Bonds of £62.5 nominal capital each—
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7 Bonds of £31.25 nominal capital each—
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8 Bonds of £15.625 nominal capital each—
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9 Bonds of £7.8125 nominal capital each—
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10 Bonds of £3.90625 nominal capital each—
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11 Bonds of £1.953125 nominal capital each—
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12 Bonds of £976.5625 nominal capital each—
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13 Bonds of £488.28125 nominal capital each—
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14 Bonds of £244.140625 nominal capital each—
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15 Bonds of £122.0703125 nominal capital each—
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16 Bonds of £61.03515625 nominal capital each—
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17 Bonds of £30.517578125 nominal capital each—
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18 Bonds of £15.2587890625 nominal capital each—
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20 Bonds of £3.814697265625 nominal capital each—
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21 Bonds of £1.9073486328125 nominal capital each—
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22 Bonds of £953.67431640625 nominal capital each—
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Secretarial and General Appointments
also on page 26

GENERAL

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Secretarial and General Appointments also on page 25

SECRETARIAL

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1. For the Regional Officer with responsibility for Community Arts and other matters concerned with the development of Arts at Regional level. Duties including organising and managing the Community Arts Committee, assisting with the processing of applications for grants, and provision of information and back-up services to Regional Arts Association and other bodies concerned with supporting the arts.

2. For the Research and Information Section to help the Regional Officer with secretarial services and the provision and distribution of information. The job offers scope for initiative and the successful candidate will be involved in the preparation of bi-monthly information bulletins.

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